



THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Next week will see the start of the first-ever public inquiry in this country into the merits and possible dangers of a drug. The product is Depo-Provera, an injectable contraceptive which is said to be as effective as the pill but which some authorities claim can be misused and might have unacceptable side-effects in certain cases. Tomorrow, the Wednesday, Page examines the facts behind the debate over Depo-Provera and reports on the evidence gathered by those who support the drug and those who say it should not be widely used. On the Spectrum page, Christopher Thomas reports on the British invasion of New York that begins tomorrow - an operation which will present America with the best of British culture.

14 'loyalist' terrorists are jailed

Fourteen men, including leading members of the outlawed 'loyalist' Ulster Volunteer Force, received two life sentences and a total of 200 years in jail after being convicted at Belfast Crown Court of terrorist offences on evidence supplied by a "supergrass".

Record £573m bid for Tilling

BTR, the industrial conglomerate, made a record British industrial bid when it offered £573m for Thomas Tilling, whose businesses include Heineken publishing, Cornhill Insurance and Pirelli Polysar.

Livingstone curb

The action of left-wing groups in nominating Mr Kenneth Livingstone as prospective parliamentary candidate for Brent, East, was outside the Labour Party's constitution, a report states.

Shares boom

The FT index rose to a record 683.9, up 8.9, and the pound moved smartly ahead, closing up 2.20 cents at \$1.5270, on hopes of an early cut in base rates.

Queen for India

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the opening of the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference in New Delhi in November, when the Queen will also visit Kenya and Bangladesh.



Thames bomb

A German bomb from the Second World War, found by a Thames dredger, brought central London's rush hour to a standstill.

Czechs can stay

A Czechoslovak family of four who faced religious persecution at home are to be allowed to remain in Britain on compassionate grounds.

Willis plea

England's cricket captain, Bob Willis, will today put the case to the Cricketers' Association for changing the county championship from three-day play to four days.

Leader page, 13
Letters: On Police Bill, from Dr R. Fox, and others; war graves, from Mr A. W. G. Wakefield, and Mrs C. Kirk; religious tolerance, from Mrs E. F. Wartenberg, and Mr T. Prittie.
Leading articles: Education; Middle East; Citizens Advice Bureau.
Features, pages 10-12
Chilling parallels between Lebanon and Vietnam; The best election bet for the Tories; The Myth of authenticity exposed; Spectrum: Visions of a world gone sane; Fashion: The best shop assistant in London.
Obituary, page 12
Sir Harold Mitchell, Dr Peter Tahourdin.

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Large army bases tighten Israeli grip on Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Khirbet Rouha, central Lebanon

Despite the protracted negotiations for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, the Israeli Army has built, and is still building, a series of large and sophisticated military bases across southern and central Lebanon.

They include hardened helicopter pads, elaborate radar systems, newly tarmacaded tank parks and concrete and brick buildings, all constructed as if the Israelis were planning to stay in Lebanon for years, rather than withdraw from the country in accordance with President Reagan's wishes.

A number of Western diplomats in Beirut, including Americans, now fear that, after pulling its troops back from the international highway outside Beirut to a line running from the village of Khirbet Rouha in the Bekaa valley, Israel intends to maintain its hold over the rest of the territory it is occupying unless Lebanon signs a peace treaty.

There is also a growing suspicion in Beirut that both the Lebanese Government and the United States have put too much trust in Syria's professed determination to withdraw from Lebanon.

In recent official statements, Syrian Government spokesmen have talked about "a complete understanding" with Lebanon, rather than an agreement to withdraw. The Syrians have several times insisted that they will not initiate a pull-back of forces "until the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon".

On the evidence of the Israeli military structure in Israeli-occupied areas, this could be a long time in coming.



South of Sidon, next to the oil terminal at Zahran, a complex military encampment is growing larger each week with barracks, armoured vehicle parking lots and transport sections.

On the other side of the central mountain chain that divides Lebanon, along the floor of the Aroub and lower Bekaa valleys, the Israelis have constructed a whole series of fortified military bases, many of them protected by 20ft high earth ramparts.

Just outside the town of Marjayoun, which is Major Saad Haddad's "capital", there now stands a sprawling logistics base bristling with radar and transmission equipment and with a helicopter landing pad just to the south.

Most of the bases further up the valley, outside the villages of Kfar Mischki, Deir el Ahmar and Khirbet Rouha, are clearly visible from Syrian forward positions on the mountains along the Syrian frontier, and Soviet satellites will have had no difficulty in photographing them.

Ironically, some have been constructed on the wreckage of old Syrian Army depots, which were captured in the Bekaa fighting last June.

The main road up to the Syrian lines just north of Khirbet Rouha has been widened by the Israelis to take armoured vehicles. Along the entire highway, which is still fringed by the ruins of Syrian tanks and trucks, all but four of the road signs are in Hebrew.

By far the greater part of Israel's occupation Army is now positioned along this road.

Both inside Lebanon and along its frontier, Syria has more than 40,000 troops - a third of its entire Army - and could probably roll back the Israeli lines in a surprise attack, though only at enormous cost.

What troubles diplomats in Beirut, and especially the Lebanese Government, is that Israeli positions in the Chouf mountains and along the international highway outside Beirut are of a far more makeshift nature than the bases in the south; they could be abandoned in a matter of days.

Reagan tries to put the pieces together

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan kept in contact yesterday with moderate Arab leaders in an attempt to salvage his Middle East peace plan after the refusal of King Hussein of Jordan to take part in Palestinian autonomy negotiations.

Despite the President's publicly expressed optimism that his September 1 initiative was still alive, United States officials were much less sanguine in private. Some admitted that the plan had received a body blow but could still be revived, others conceded that the King's action may prove to be fatal.

Senior officials said the President was determined to press ahead despite the setback. Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said: "The job is too important for him to be deterred by events of the weekend. He will persevere... he is in for a long haul."

From the outset American officials had made it clear that the key to the initiative lay with King Hussein. If he agreed to join talks on the plan, they believed Israel would take part as well - despite its initial rejection.

Last week it looked as though the efforts would be successful. To give King Hussein a final nudge, the United States announced it would try to get Israel to freeze Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said on television yesterday that King

Hussein's decision was an impediment and blamed the failure on "radical elements in the PLO".

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Arab held after PLO man's death

From Susan MacDonald, Lisbon

Portuguese police are holding a man in connection with the assassination of Issam Sartawi, the leading Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) moderate, at the Montecarlo Hotel in Lisbon.

However it has become clear that the PLO radicals had a greater impact on King Hussein's decision than all of the exhortations made by President Reagan. The murder in Portugal of Mr Issam Sartawi, a Palestinian moderate, was also clearly intended to be a warning to the King not to go along with the Reagan plan.

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Caught on the hop: The Princess of Wales catches a shy young admirer off balance during her walkabout in Brisbane yesterday. Report page 6

Falkland pilgrims remember their dead beneath the sea

From Alan Hamilton, Port Stanley

The Falklands bereaved continued their pilgrimage yesterday with a simple, dignified and moving act of remembrance for those 174 members of the task force who have no grave but the sea.

Several hundred relatives crowded the aft helicopter deck of their liner, Comandante Sarmiento, in diamond bright sun, the low-lying hills of Port Stanley in the background.

As the liner sailed, HMS Astoria in escort, trailed HMS Active and HMS Cardiff, sisters to the Antelope and the Ardent, the Coventry and the Sheffield, and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Fort Grange, their ensigns draped to half mast as the strains of "O God our Help in Ages Past" drifted across the bright glassy water.

As at the previous day's dedication of the San Carlos war memorial, Father John Ryan RN summoned the words of St Paul to the Romans: "For I am sure that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor powers nor things present nor things to come nor height nor depth nor anything

in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord".

As the congregation broke into "Eternal Father Strong to Save" several of the relatives were overcome by the moment and the music and wept openly.

Representatives of all the task force services and Sir Rex Hunt, the Civil Commissioner, lined the stern rail to cast five wreaths on the water and to watch them drift away in the Comandante's wake.

As the Royal Marines Band played Elgar's Nimrod the relatives gathered by the rail to shower the placid sea with a cascade of flowers. In a moment they were left behind, lost to the sight of all but the inquisitive petrels swooping in hope of food.

Then the Cardiff followed by the Active formed up to sail past in line to starboard, in a moment they were left behind, lost to the sight of all but the inquisitive petrels swooping in hope of food.

Watching with the Comandante's pilgrims were 46 survivors of the peril on the sea, 14 from the Coventry, 12 from the

Sheffield, 14 from the Ardent and six from the Antelope. All had come aboard for the day from the various ships in which they now serve to participate in the acts of remembrance.

Throughout the day as the Comandante steamed through the Grantham and Falkland sounds she passed over the war graves of the Ardent and the Sheffield and at each place those relatives most closely involved held small private services and cast their own wreaths on the water.

There were acts of remembrance during the day for other ill-starred vessels: the Sheffield and the Sir Galahad, the Glamorgan and the Sir Tristram.

But for all the formal acts of worship, one of the most touching and poignant moments of the entire pilgrimage was the passengers' first sight, at midday on Saturday, of the islands themselves, their rounded rocky skylines unbroken by any tree.

Their stark beauty is widely agreed by the pilgrims as they bask under a burst of glorious sunshine.

Continued on page 2, col 3

£224,000 payout by company in red

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A golden handshake of £224,000 was paid last year by the Government to an American executive, one of the co-founders of the state-owned microchip manufacturing company Immos, which yesterday declared a loss of £20.4m.

The "compensation paid to a director for loss of office", disclosed in the company's annual report and accounts was made to Dr Paul Schroeder, who still retains an equity stake in the group. The company has received £115m in loans and grants since it was created more than four years.

The handshake appears generous since the company was funded largely through taxpayers' money and is not yet in profit. According to the company's accounts, Dr Schroeder could not have been earning more than £50,000 a year, which is a quarter of the £224,000 he was paid in compensation.

The company hopes to be in profit next year, provided the world begins to pull out of recession and the sales of the Immos microchips are in line with forecasts. The manufacturing plant is at Newport in Gwent, which will house the bulk of the more than 600 people.

Over 75 per cent of the company is owned by the British Technology Group (BTG), which has invested nearly £65m in the venture to date. The Prime Minister has never hidden her dislike of the financial arrangements for funding the company and has insisted that any backing of similar enterprises be done with a large stake being raised from the private sector.

Most of Immos' costs last year resulted from funding the company's research and development programme (£4.5m) and setting up the Newport manufacturing plant (£3.6m) which has the promise of creating 1,000 jobs in depressed Wales.

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Wholly unwelcome, say staff and company

Americans bid £60m for Sotheby's

By Jeremy Warner

Sotheby Parke Bernet finally came under the hammer yesterday. After months of speculation, the world's leading but loss-making fine art auctioneering group has received a takeover bid from its main American shareholder.

A £60m offer, worth 52p in cash per Sotheby's share, was launched by GFI/Knoll, an American manufacturer of furniture and felt under-carpeting owned by Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, two New York financiers and art collectors. Their interests snapped up nearly 14 per cent of Sotheby's

shares in the stock market shortly before Christmas. But since then all their efforts to establish a dialogue with the Sotheby's directors and management have met with a sharp rebuff. This hostility was underlined yesterday in a statement which said the Americans were "well aware that this bid is wholly unwelcome to the board of Sotheby's and to the great majority of its professional experts".

It was believed in the stock market that there could be a counter-bid by a company the Sotheby's board thought a more

appropriate suitor. The price of the company's shares jumped 35p to 525p - above the value of the American bid - partly to a reflection of these hopes and partly as a result of defensive buying.

Although Mr Graham Llewellyn Sotheby's chief executive categorically denied that the group which lost £2.6m in its last financial year, had lined up a rival bidder, he did say that Sotheby was not "not opposed in principle to a constructive association with an appropriate company."

Staff to fight, Page 2

Sergeant killed burnt Argentine

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

An Argentine prisoner of war on the Falklands Islands who was burning to death after an explosion while he was moving ammunition was shot by a British soldier to put him out of his agony.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, disclosed details of the incident last night in a Commons reply about inquiries into the death and injury of Argentine POWs while in British custody and made clear that no disciplinary action would be taken against the sergeant involved. The Ministry of Defence last night declined to name him or his regiment.

Four POWs died as a result of the explosion on June 1 last year at Goose Green and a further eight were injured. The inquiry has found that there was no breach of the Geneva convention which prevents POWs from being forced to do dangerous work.

Mr Heseltine, stating it had been concluded that the work could be classed as dangerous, said that the prisoners had undertaken their task without coercion.

Mr Heseltine gave a graphic account in his reply of the dilemma facing the sergeant. After the action at Darwin and Goose Green large quantities of arms and ammunition were found, posing a threat to the civilian population which could not return home until the houses had been checked and cleared.

British forces had to give high priority to making the ammunition safe and clearing it to a central collection point at the airfield, while guarding many Argentine POWs accommodated in a large sheep-shearing shed.

Mr Heseltine went on: "On the afternoon of June 1, 1982 a prisoner of war work detail under the supervision of an Argentine officer and guarded by three British soldiers was engaged on the task of moving ammunition from near the sheep-shearing shed when there was a loud explosion.

A very fierce fire began and although rescuers managed to pull the injured clear, one prisoner of war was seen to stagger back into the flames.

"Attempts to reach him failed and a sergeant of the British forces who had over a period of some minutes been repeatedly driven back by the heat and flames and who thought the prisoner was beyond assistance but still alive and in agony obtained a rifle and fired three or four shots at the man."

Mr Heseltine said that shortly after the incident an Argentine officer had complained that a British soldier had shot a prisoner of war. Eye-witnesses, including the sergeant, were interviewed and the facts explained to Argentine officers who accepted them and did not pursue the matter further.

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SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

Theft from disc jockey of power boat cash denied by businessman

By Stewart Teadler, Crime Reporter

Basil Wainwright, a businessman, yesterday denied charges of dishonestly obtaining more than £40,000 from Mr Noel Edmunds, the disc jockey.

He pleaded not guilty at Worcester Crown Court to a total of 22 charges, including nine of theft, five of obtaining money by deception and others of obtaining £16,840 by theft.

Mr Wainwright, aged 48, of Greenleigh Road, Yardley Wood, Birmingham, appeared before Judge John Lee with Sheryl Cuffe, aged 29, his former secretary, of Parkfield Drive, Castle Bromwich, West Midlands.

Mr Wainwright denies a total of nine charges of theft, five of forgery, five of false accounting, two of obtaining money by deception and one of obtaining money through a pecuniary advantage.

Miss Cuffe denies on charge of theft, four of forgery and five of false accounting. All the alleged offences took place between October 1980, and last August.

The theft and deception charges against Mr Wainwright and his connexion with Mr

Edmunds, centred on a firm called Creaseglen Ltd, which was based at Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, Mr Michael Pratt, QC, for the prosecution, told the court.

The firm was set up to develop a hydro-wing powerboat called Excalibur, with which Mr Edmunds hoped to beat the world water speed record.

Mr Edmunds first met Mr Wainwright when they filmed the motor racing programme, *Top Gear*, at the BBC studios in Birmingham, Mr Pratt told the jury.

He said that Mr Wainwright was promoting a new system of ignition through his company, Wainwright International Incorporated which is based in America.

During the meeting at the television studios Mr Edmunds told Mr Wainwright and Mr Frederick Stidworthy, an inventor, of Warwick, of his idea for a record-breaking speedboat.

Mr Stidworthy produce plans based on the idea and Mr Wainwright got in touch with Mr Edmunds in November 1980, Mr Edmunds agreed, Mr Pratt said, on a pound-for-pound basis to invest £70,000 in

the project. The first craft would belong to Mr Edmunds and would be called Excalibur.

The plans were finalized at a meeting in Stratford-on-Avon in January, 1981, Mr Pratt said. Later that month Mr Edmunds paid £10,000 to Creaseglen.

Mr Edmunds was presented with a miniature model of Excalibur, and by May had paid in the Creaseglen his agreed £70,000.

Mr Pratt said that because of Mr Edmunds' involvement the BBC planned to make a film of the project, which was to be called "Birth of a Boat". He told the jury that a more apt title might have been "The Boat that never was".

He said that eventually Mr Edmunds became concerned because he could not see accounts kept by Mr Wainwright concerning Creaseglen. So in July, 1981, "with a sense of drama", the BBC sent a camera crew to interview Mr Edmunds and Mr Wainwright at the Redditch factory.

By that time the Creaseglen bank account was overdrawn by more than £21,000 and Mr Edmunds did not know what had happened to his money. The trial continues today.

Train gang used Trojan horse plan

A gang of train robbers used a Trojan horse method to carry out thefts last August of Post Office mail, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

A man hid in a large locked trunk equipped with oxygen apparatus to enable him to breathe. The trunk was then dispatched with another into the train's security compartment.

During the journey from Euston to Stoke-on-Trent he emerged through a false door in the side of the trunk and then loaded the second with mailbags full of valuable property. He was however, caught, by detectives who had been investigating large-scale thefts from trains, the court heard.

James Hanrahan, aged 42, a decorator, of Kenilworth, north London, the slightly built man who hid in the trunk, was jailed for four years, Elisa Paule, aged 24, of Green Lanes, north London, who bought the tickets and travelled on the train, was given a 12-month sentence, suspended for two years.

George Howard, aged 52, an actor, of Jupiter Way, Islington, north London, who recruited Paule and helped to organize the scheme, was sentenced to three years. Michael Montague, aged 34, a motor mechanic, of Lower Clapton, north-east London, was jailed for his part as the "strong man" who carried the trunk containing Hanrahan to the train. They all pleaded guilty to conspiracy to steal Post Office mail from the train in August last year.

Judge Bax said: "The courts can only take an extremely serious view of people who set out to violate the security system."

Mr Michael Sayers, for the prosecution, said it was a highly organized attack on the supposed vandal-proof contents of royal mail. They had adopted the system of the Trojan horse to gain entry to the security luggage parts of the train. However, he said, it was "nipped in the bud" by luck and good police work.

Hanrahan worked for the Post Office for 18 years and knew the security system. When he left through "ill health", he kept the keys to vital security locks and his uniform. He thought up the scheme.

Paule was arrested on the train and confessed to the scheme, and Howard and another man were captured as they waited with a hired van at Stoke-on-Trent to unload the trunk.

Czech family can stay in Britain

By Frances Gibb

The Home Secretary yesterday agreed to allow a Czechoslovak family of four who face deportation remain in Britain on compassionate grounds after representations from Conservative MPs.

Mr Bohuslav Starosta, his wife and their two sons came to Britain from Prague in December, 1981, with three-week holiday visas and sought political asylum on the ground that they faced religious persecution as Christians. They belong to a Moravian church.

Their application to stay was refused, first by the immigration appeals adjudicator and then by the appeals tribunal, although both of those said there were compassionate grounds for allowing the family to remain.

Yesterday, after Mr David Waddington, the Home Office Minister responsible for immigration, had announced the Home Secretary's decision, Mr Starosta, who is aged 37 and is a quantity surveyor, said: "It is fantastic news. We are so pleased." He intends to try to get a job.

The normal procedure in such cases is that after a year the Starostas can make an application to remain in Britain indefinitely. Unless the political situation in Czechoslovakia changes, they are likely to be allowed to do so.

A Home Office spokesman said that the case had been under consideration since the appeal was rejected in March. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, had reached his decision because of the compassionate circumstances, and the family were remaining on this basis, not as political refugees.

Representations had been made by Mr Brian MacWhinney, Conservative MP for Peterborough, and Sir Ian Gilmour, Conservative MP for Chesham and Amersham. Mr MacWhinney said that he was delighted with the decision.

"I am sure it is the right one and it is a response not only to the facts of the case but also to the pressure brought to bear, particularly from the Christian community on behalf of this family, who have been subjected to religious persecution in their homeland", he said.

The Rev Andrew Warburton, Mr Starosta's brother-in-law, said: "We are thrilled to bits as a family, although still suffering from shock. We did not expect the decision so quickly."

"I believe their case has been helped by that of the Romanians, Mr Stacu Papusoiu, (recently expelled from Britain) which has highlighted the problems of refugees from Eastern Europe."

House prices 'forced up by too much Green Belt'

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

London home-buyers faced steep price rises because too much land was near the Green Belt, the House-Builders' Federation claimed in London yesterday. Mr Peter Woodrow, president of the federation and a buyer of land for the Wimpey group, said: "Whenever a piece of land comes on to the market we all want that same piece of land."

"We do not put in what the land is worth", he continued. "We have to put in what we think will beat the rest. We are all forcing land prices up." Mr Roger Humber, director of the federation, said: "Housing land prices in London and the South-east have doubled in the past year. This is very bad news for home buyers."

The federation called for release for building of 240 acres of Green Belt on 21 sites owned

by London boroughs in the suburbs of the capital. Almost half of the land was near the Minet Estate, in Uxbridge, and the rest was scattered in small plots all round the outskirts of London.

The federation claimed that the sites had no value as Green Belt and that some were eyesores that would be improved by houses. They also called for a change in Green Belt policies so that councils would no longer be able to designate large tracts of countryside, but would have to justify the Green Belt value of each piece of land chosen.

"We as house builders are not trying to destroy Green Belt", Mr Humber said. "But we really cannot afford the luxury of the policies that we have now. Blanket policies must be replaced by a policy of qualitative examination of each site."

Artists canvass the RA critics for a place in the exhibition . . .



... but for some, rejection

The grimly named "hanging committee" of the Royal Academy of Arts (RA) yesterday began its annual task of selecting paintings and other works for its summer exhibition. About 13,000 works have been submitted for the event, which runs from May 28 until August 28.

Paintings arriving by the barrel-load were passed like fire buckets along a human chain of art students so that they could be displayed in front of distinguished judges, including Rodrigo Moyallan (above).

A show of hands determined whether the artist's pride and joy got an "X" for reject or a "D" for doubtful. The panel, chaired by Peter Greenham, RA schools chair-

man, was considering only paintings yesterday. A worn cushion and matching stool (left) had been brought out, as for the past 80 years. On that cushion each painting rested for an average of two seconds.

Also "resting" on it were the hopes of the artists, for whom a few square feet of wall at the RA could mean the difference between obscurity and success.

The panel will be working at least until Thursday, "from 10am to exhaustion", according to Mr Piers Rodgers, the RA secretary.

They will have to reject about nine out of ten of the works submitted. The "doubtfuls" will be reappraised before final selection and hanging. (Photographs: Brian Harris).

Aspirin warning to coil users

By Clive Cookson

Women who use an intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD) should not take aspirin, a leading family planning doctor said yesterday.

Dr Jill Dossetor, who practices in Suffolk, reports in a letter to *Pulse* that only three of 1,000 patients she fitted with the multiloop coil (a particular type of IUD) had become pregnant; two conceived after doses of aspirin and the third was taking a related drug, Ponstan, which works like aspirin by preventing the formation of prostaglandin.

Evidence that aspirin and other anti-inflammatory drugs may make the coil less effective has also come from a group of French family planning experts.

They reported independently two months ago that four women taking such drugs had each become pregnant twice while fitted with an IUD.

Dr Dossetor said yesterday that she would advise women who use an IUD to take medicines such as Panadol or Paracetamol instead of aspirin. She has started distributing leaflets to her own IUD patients, warning them of the risks.

According to the most recent figures from the Family Planning Association, about 500,000 women in Britain are fitted with an IUD. Their normal failure rate is about three pregnancies a year per 100 women. An association spokesman said it was too soon to advise everyone with an IUD to avoid aspirin.

There is evidence that the coil stimulates the production of prostaglandins in some women.

Swede cleared of aiding Boss burglary

A Swedish journalist accused of acting as a South African agent in Britain, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of involvement in a break-in at the London offices of an anti-apartheid organization.

The prosecution had alleged that Mr Beril Wedin, aged 42, had been paid £1,000 a month by South Africa's security police formerly known as the Bureau of State Security (BOSS) to supply information about opponents of the regime.

The prosecution alleged that Mr Wedin had interviewed Mr Hamilton Keke, of the Pan African Congress of Azania (South Africa) at the their

offices in High Road, Willesden, north-west London, ostensibly to write an article.

Later he produced a sketch pad of the offices to assist a burglar, who broke in and stole documents last summer, it was alleged. However the jury found Mr Wedin, of Tonbridge, Kent, not guilty of burglary between July 31 and August 10 last and not guilty of dishonestly receiving stolen letters and other documents between July 30 and September 14 last.

After his acquittal Mr Wedin, a former Swedish Army officer, who has an English wife, said he had supplied information to a South African company in good

faith, not realizing that it was a front for South African intelligence.

"If you are a political analyst you can never be sure where the information goes", he said.

Mr Roy Amfor, for the prosecution, had alleged that Mr Wedin and Peter Casleton were both working as South African agents and that Casleton arranged for Edward Aspinall, a convicted burglar, to break into the Pan African Congress offices. Mr Amfor said it was not alleged that Mr Wedin actually broke into the premises himself.

Casleton, aged 38, and Aspinall, aged 23, were jailed at

the Central Criminal Court, in December last year after pleading guilty to conspiracy to burglar and possession of a prohibited weapon, a teargas aerosol.

Aspinall also admitted three specific burglaries on Anti-Apartheid offices in London: those of the African National Congress, the South West African Peoples' Organization and PAC. He was said to have been recruited by Warrant Officer Joseph Klue, a South African Embassy official, who was expelled from Britain last year. Casleton was jailed for four years and Aspinall for 18 months.

Heroism of Rob James's crewman praised

From Craig Seton, Plymouth

Rob James, the international yachtsman, fought a losing battle against cold after falling from his trimaran and died in spite of the heroism of Mr Jeffrey Houlgrave, who jumped into the sea to try to save his skipper, an inquest in Plymouth was told yesterday.

Mr David Bishop, the Plymouth and south-west Devon Coroner, praised all four of Mr James's crew for their considerable effort but said heroism was probably the right word to use for Mr Houlgrave aged 29.

"Quite regardless of the risk to his own safety - and there was very considerable risk - he plunged into the cold water and assisted in the recovery until he was overcome by cold and fatigue," Mr Bishop said.

The inquest heard that Mr Houlgrave managed to get Mr James back to the side of the trimaran until his grip was broken by a large wave. Numerous attempts had been made to save Mr James after he fell from the trimaran Col Cars GB two miles off Salcombe harbour just before dawn on March 20, and he could be heard shouting, "I am going down, I am going down".



Mr Jeffrey Houlgrave: "Great risk in jumping into sea."

Mr James, aged 36, the husband of Dame Naomi James, the round-the-world yachtswoman, had not been wearing a life jacket or harness while bringing down the mainsail, and he fell through a safety net into the water. His lashing was later found to be broken.

A dinghy on board the 60ft trimaran, which had no engine, was not launched during the rescue and Mr James's body was eventually recovered by helicopter.

Dame Naomi, who gave birth to the couple's first child a week

after the tragedy, was not at the inquest and nor were any other members of Mr James's family.

Recording a verdict of accidental death on Mr James of Upper Enham, Andover, Mr Bishop said it was easy to be wise after the event but at that period of the year the time to effect any sort of recovery or rescue was considerably limited.

The inquest was told that when Mr James fell overboard Mr Paul Yeadon, a chartered surveyor, of Bristol was helping to bring down the mainsail and Miss Michelle de Bruin, aged 20, was at the helm. Below, off watch, were Mr Houlgrave and Michael Cane, another crewman.

Mr Houlgrave told the inquest that he was warned by James, "about of" "overboard" and after running on to the deck he threw a life ring to Mr James. For 25 minutes his skipper could be seen in his white oilskins or heard shouting as the crew tried with difficulty to tack and bring the trimaran round to him; then it was decided that somebody had to go into the water to attempt a rescue.

Mr Houlgrave said he had jumped into the sea with a line tied around. "I managed to get hold of Rob and he was

conscious but with very little strength left. "I merely held him out of the water until we were dragged back", he said.

Mr Houlgrave said he and Mr James were alongside the hull of the trimaran but the waves were lifting them out of the water. "I was finding it very difficult to hang on and I was losing feeling in the extremities".

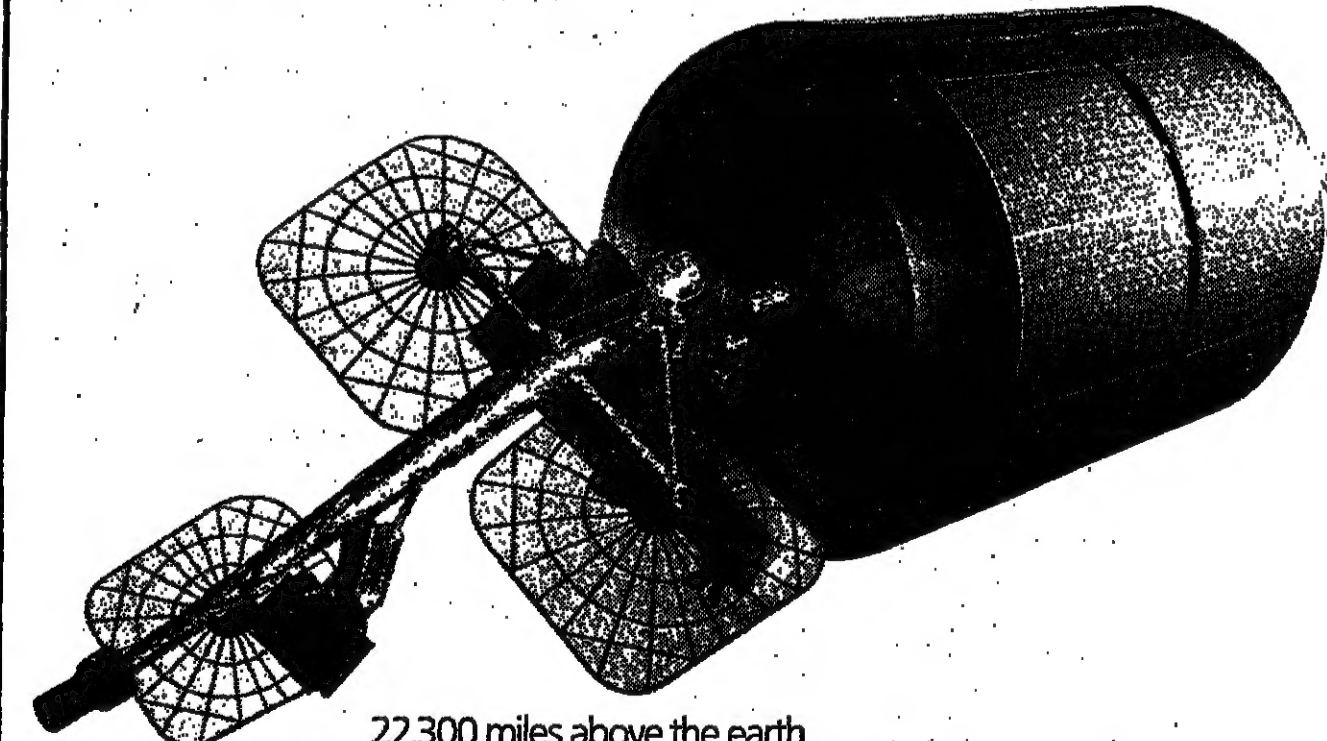
Mr Yeadon and Mr Cane had grabbed hold of Mr James by his oilskins but the waves had snatched him away. Mr Houlgrave said: "Shortly after, I lost my grip as well".

He said it would have been possible to launch the dinghy on board, given sufficient time. The idea was considered and discounted because of its limited use in strong winds.

Mr Houlgrave added: "There was no panic at any stage by anyone".

Riding tack raid

Saddles, bridles and horse rugs valued at £10,000 have been stolen from a farm at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. The stolen tack included 30 saddle sets, some branded with the letters NFB, belonging to Mrs Caroline Blake.



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8-SPEED GEARBOX AND APPROPRIATE AXLE		-	-	O	S	S	O	O	-
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POWER ASSISTED STEERING		O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
LAMINATED WINDSHIELD		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
STEERING COLUMN LOCK		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
THERMOVISCIOUS FAN		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
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Courtauld Institute art collections may go on show at Somerset House

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The important art collections of the Courtauld Institute could be on show to the public in the Fine Rooms at Somerset House, in London, in two years as a result of an agreement in principle between the Government and London University.

For two years, Professor Peter Lasko, director of the institute, has been trying to persuade the Government to make Somerset House, built in 1776-1778, available. Negotiations with the Department of the Environment are at an advanced stage.

Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of London University, of which the Courtauld Institute is part, said yesterday that after many years of trying to unite the art collections and the teaching institute under one roof, the plan was "excitingly within reach".

It is estimated that the cost of adapting the north block of Somerset House, facing the Strand, will be at least £3m. The institute will be launching a public appeal "with the dual objective of creating an outstanding new public art gallery in London and ensuring that the teaching of art history and the enjoyment of works of art can take place in one building".

The Courtauld Institute, which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, has Samuel Courtauld's famous collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings, including the Thomas-Gambier-Parry, the Roger Fry, and the Princess Gate collection bequeathed by Count Antoine Seilern.

Recently a collection of nineteenth and twentieth-century paintings and sculpture was given by Lillian Browne.

At present only about 40 per cent of the works can be shown at the galleries in Woburn Square, and the move to Somerset House will enable 80 to 90 per cent of the works to go on show, according to Professor Lasko.

When Somerset House was acquired by the Government from the Crown it was designated for government offices, so legislation will be needed to enable the Government to grant a lease for its use as a teaching institute and art gallery.

Bank union becomes militant on technology

From Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter, Blackpool

In a sharp move to the left the 152,000-member Banking, Insurance and Finance Union yesterday decided to take a far more militant stand over new technology.

Members will be urged to resist the introduction of any new machinery where no technology agreements exist between the union and management. That means that staff would take industrial action and refuse to operate the equipment.

The motion was passed overwhelmingly at the union's annual delegate conference in Blackpool against the advice of the executive, who felt that there would be some grass roots resistance to the action. An attempt to remit it to the national executive was heavily defeated.

Moving the resolution, Mr David Thomas, from Lancaster, said that existing job security agreements were insufficient to protect members. There were no guarantees over job content or the speed with which new processes were to be introduced. There was only one agreement in existence, which was at the Cooperative Bank.

Mr Thomas said: "We are not opposed to new technology in the long term, we merely wish to have some say about its introduction. The point of the motion was not to deplore the implementation of new technology."

But Mr Anthony Knowles, of the national executive, said action to block equipment would require a ballot, "and in any case of our members support the introduction of new machinery."

Mr Terence Molloy, deputy general secretary, thought the debate was the most important of the conference. "New technology is the greatest challenge we face, not just for BIFU but for the whole of the trade union movement."

He said that the policy of the union was to support new technology, but only if it was implemented via a new agreement.

"We are facing an unemployment figure of four million and new technology means that jobs are in danger on banking, building societies, insurance and finance."

He quoted a study which predicted that the English clearing banks face a 12 per cent reduction in manpower by 1990. "Let no member be under any illusion. Their jobs and their prospects are under threat," he said.

Teacher jailed for affair with girl of 13

A teacher of religious education was sent to prison yesterday after admitting having an affair with a girl aged 13. They had sexual intercourse in his car and at his home while his wife was at work, Stafford Crown Court was told.

The girl's mother became suspicious after discovering a torn-up letter from the teacher to the girl. When confronted by the police, Steven Green aged 29, admitted the relationship. He said he was in love with the girl, who was described in court as physically and sexually mature.

Green, of Aldridge, West Midlands, was jailed for a total of 18 months, nine of them suspended, after pleading guilty to three charges of having unlawful sexual intercourse with the girl.

Mr Christopher Hotten, for the prosecution, said the offences represented a serious breach of trust. The relationship began soon after Christmas, 1981. Green played basketball with a group of boys and girls. Eventually the numbers taking

Signalman was drunk, court told

From Our Correspondent, Exeter

A signalman who drank too much on his birthday arrived drunk on duty and fell asleep in his signal box, causing chaos on the Paddington to Penzance line, Callington magistrates in Devon, were told yesterday.

Eventually, after five trains were delayed for 87 minutes, a driver reached the signal box and found Leo Morris sprawled unconscious in his chair. Mr Reginald Peck, for British Transport Police, told the court. After failing to rouse him, the driver called the police and an ambulance. When the police arrived he tried to operate the signal levers but was so unsteady on his feet that the officers arrested him.

Morris, who admitted being drunk on duty, said that he had had too much to drink. "I had a fall off my pushbike."

Mr Cecil Stoneman, chairman of the bench adjourned the hearing until May 9, pending a social inquiry report. He said: "We have in mind a custodial sentence."

Whitehall brief

'Mr Clean' can veto improper appointments

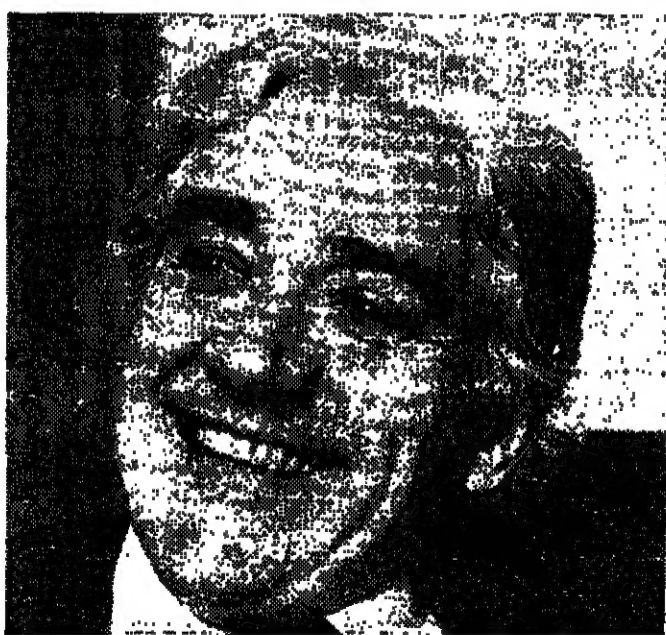
By Peter Hennessy

In career terms Mr Dennis Trevelyan has gone from one extreme to another. For five years his job was to keep people in, 45,000 of them to be precise, the residents of HM Prisons in England and Wales. Three weeks ago he became First Civil Service Commissioner responsible to the Queen and the Privy Council for keeping unqualified, politically appointed persons out of Whitehall.

Although only a deputy secretary in the Management and Personnel Office, he can, technically, go over the heads of his boss, Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, and Sir Robert's boss, the Prime Minister, and protest to the sovereign if he believes patronage of the early nineteenth century variety is once more rearing its corrupt head.

His singular power derives from successive orders in council, the first of 1855 vintage, the most recent a 1982 formulation. It was a distant ancestor, Sir Charles Trevelyan, who, with Sir Stafford Northcote produced the famous report of 1853 which recommended that the Civil Service be cleaned up through a system of appointments based purely on merit as demonstrated in competitive examination.

The job of the 1983 model Trevelyan is to make sure that Whitehall stays clean. Nobody can take up a permanent post in the executive grades or higher



Mr Dennis Trevelyan: Holds the trump cards.

without a certificate from him demonstrating that they have been properly recruited.

The matter is less arcane than it sounds. There are individuals and groups in both the Conservative and Labour parties who are calling for the upper reaches of the policy-making Civil Service to be partially politicized by the importation of some politically committed outsiders into the top three ranks of the hierarchy.

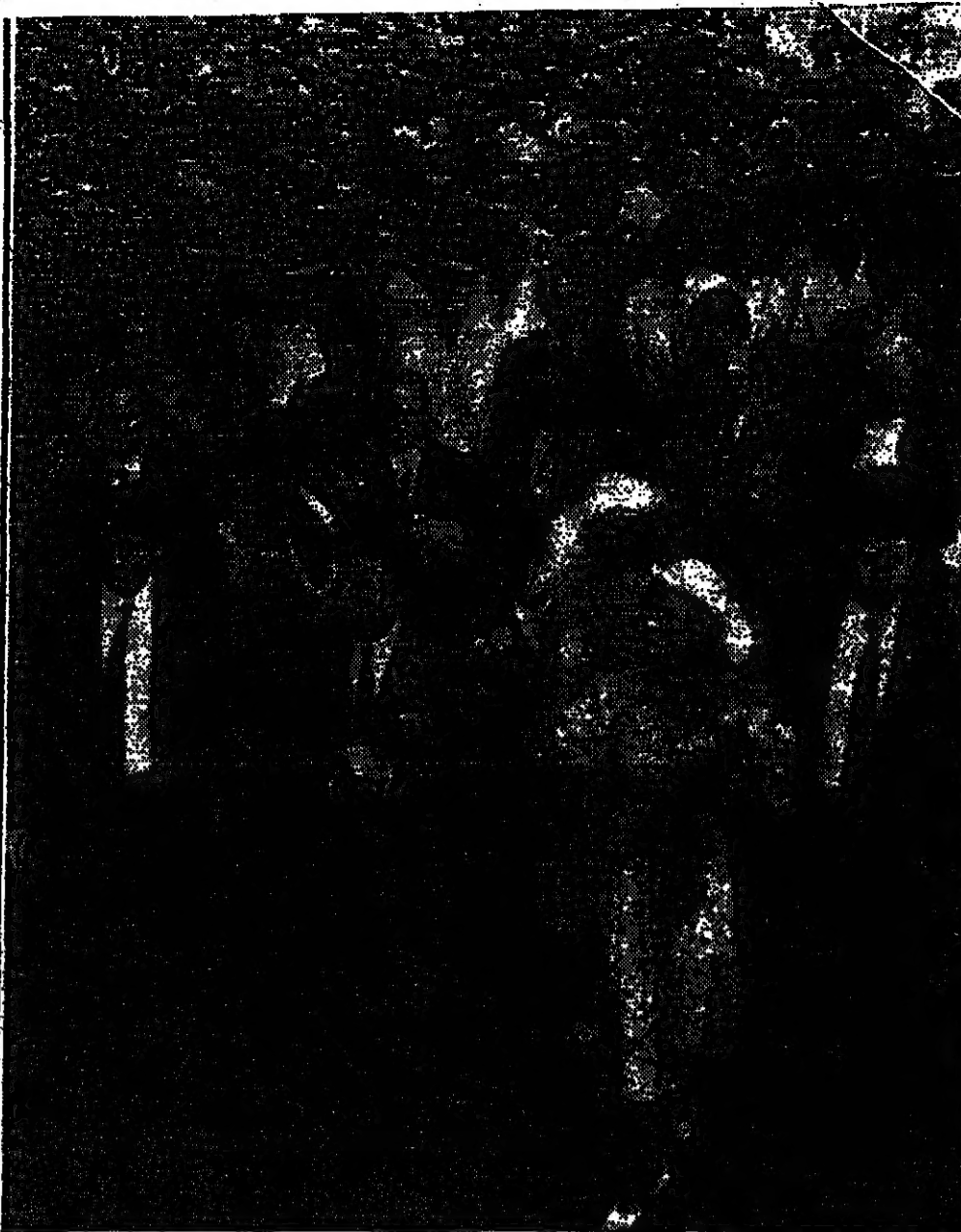
The 1982 order, which was promulgated from Buckingham

Matters could get tricky, however, if heads of Whitehall departments were appointed from partisan outsiders. Almost by definition that kind of permanent secretary could not be a temporary appointee. In under Section 1 (2) (c), although some permanent secretaries, such as Professor Terence Burns, Chief Economic Adviser to the Treasury, are temporary civil servants.

What could Mr Trevelyan do if the nineteenth-century settlement, the brainchild of his ancestor, seemed under threat? The pattern of escalation would probably proceed as follows.

First he would confide his fears to Sir Robert Armstrong. Depending on the level at which the "improper" appointment was to take place, he would talk to the minister and the permanent secretary in the affected department. If no notice was taken, he would cite his order in council and stress his independence. If propriety still did not prevail, he would blow the whistle by making his concern public.

The view in Whitehall is that matters would get no farther than the private chat stage. Virtue would triumph without the need for publicity. With characteristic Whitehall understatement one insider said "The Queen would be slightly surprised" if Mr Trevelyan sought an audience waving his order in council. But, as trump cards go, the monarch is pretty unbeatable.



Crowded out: On the fourth week of their tour, the Prince and Princess of Wales had another massive welcome in Brisbane.

Crowd force Princess to abandon walkabout

From Graeme Forbes, PA Court Correspondent, Brisbane

A Royal walkabout in Brisbane last night was cut drastically yesterday when a surprisingly large crowd steadily swarmed the Princess of Wales in their freezing enthusiasm.

The walkabout, through the heart of the city, was to have lasted more than an hour, but as hysterical masses swarmed the Princess, the Prince of Wales and their advisers decided to make a dash for the safety of the City Hall.

Young children in the very front of the crowd, which was in places 20 deep, seemed in danger of being crushed and the Prince and Princess realized that this was to be no ordinary walkabout.

A senior Australian policeman described the walkabout as "86 degree heat as 'hellish'."

The Princess arrived at the City Hall for an official welcome with sweat pouring down her face and obviously shattered by the emotion of the occasion.

She was rushed to a cool, private room to recover.

The crowd's enthusiasm did not diminish even when the royal couple were safely inside City Hall. A balcony appearance by the Princess and Prince brought hysterical screams. As the royal visitors left the balcony after the three-minute appearance the Prince put his arm comfortably round his wife's waist.

Hawke rebuke on RAAF dam flights

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, gave an assurance late last night that the armed forces would not be used again in the Tasmanian dam controversy, and is believed to have reprimanded Mr Gordon Scholes, the Defence Minister, for allowing an RAAF aircraft to be used for dam surveillance.

Mr Robin Gray, the Tasmanian premier, had officially protested to the Federal Government over the use of an RAAF aircraft to photograph work on the Gordon-below-Franklin dam in the southwest wilderness area of the state.

Mr Gray said that the flight of an RAAF Mirage fighter over the area last week was an entirely wrong, provocative and overbearing use of the defence forces. The flight had been ordered by the Federal Attorney General's department and an RAAF spokesman confirmed that it was a photographic mission, a task often assigned to flight crews. Photographs were taken of the dam site.

"This is the first time ever such a thing has happened in Australia," Mr Gray said. He said it was "incredible" that Mr

Honours list on way out

The Federal Government has abolished the British-based honours system and will no longer nominate Australians for awards. The Australian honours system, the Order of Australia, instituted under the last Labour government, will continue.

However, the two states ruled by Liberal-National Party governments will continue to nominate people for British awards. The Labour state governments have already scrapped the imperial honours system.

The announcement yesterday was no surprise as the abolition of the honours system has been Labour Party policy for some time.

Hawke had apparently sent the RAAF on a "U-2 type" spy mission.

Yesterday Senator Garth Evans, the Attorney General, said that the reason that the RAAF had been used was to avoid any confrontation with Tasmanian police. He also

disclosed that Federal police had been sent over the area in a chartered light aircraft.

He said that the RAAF had been used because the area was hard to get to and because Mr Gray had threatened to use state police to block ground access to the dam site.

Mr Gray said that Mr Hawke had been invited five times to visit the wilderness zone, listed by the World Heritage Commission as one of the last remaining temperate wilderness areas in the world, but had refused. He said that the state government would have provided light aircraft or helicopter for Mr Hawke's visit but the Prime Minister preferred to use the RAAF for political purposes to try to get information to use against Tasmania.

Mr Hawke has offered the union movement the prospect that the national "economic summit", which opened in Parliament House in Canberra yesterday, would agree to return to centralized wage fixing in an effort to increase the summit's chances of reaching a consensus on economic direction for Australia.

The Government also un-

veiled proposals for a prices surveillance authority to accompany any limiting of wage increases.

Opening the summit, consisting of 98 delegates and 230 observers, yesterday morning, Mr Hawke said "decisions that are going to achieve our great national objectives cannot be made in isolation from economic and social realities".

The purpose of the conference was "to expose us all, including those with direct responsibility for Government decision-making to those realities".

Mr Hawke said that representatives of the Australian people were meeting at a time of Australia's greatest economic crisis in 50 years. He said he believed the conference had a part to play not only in the urgent and immediate task of achieving national economic recovery but in laying the foundations for Australia's future.

The morning session was taken up by speeches by Mr Hawke, Mr Neville Wran, the New South Wales Premier, and representatives of the trade union movement, industry and business.

'Kafkaesque' defence' at plot trial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Spanish Supreme Court has 10 working days from today in which to deliver its sentences after the appeals ended yesterday of those accused of plotting and staging the military coup attempt in February, 1981.

It was "positively Kafkaesque" for the defence to dispute whether an attempted coup had occurred when millions of Spaniards had heard the assault on Parliament as it happened, the prosecution declared in its final submissions yesterday.

The seven civilian judges, who have been hearing an appeal for the first time in this country against a court-martial, can either increase the sentences as the prosecution has demanded, reduce them, or order a retrial. Counsel for General Alfonso Armada, said by the prosecution to have been the "political head" of the coup, has demanded an acquittal alleging lack of proof.

Within 20 days of the Supreme Court giving its verdict, defence lawyers can still appeal to the Constitutional Court.

Resentment against Delhi grows

In his second and final article on the recent violence in Assam, KULDIP NAYAR, a leading Indian journalist and correspondent of The Times in India since 1969, analyses the worsening relations between native Assamese and immigrant Bengalis.

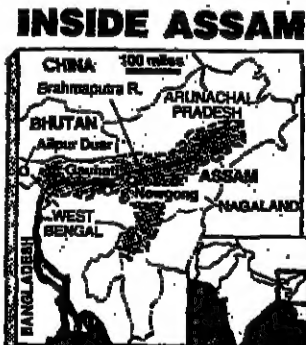
"Three hundred thousand people remain homeless in Assam after the terrible eruption of election violence. Most are in camps dependent on meagre Government rations and private donations, which are rapidly drying up.

Corrupt politicians, with the help of contractors, are making money out of supplies and services to the camps.

Most of the refugees are reluctant to return to their home areas. They want assurances of police protection. The Muslims would prefer to be guarded by the Delhi-controlled paramilitary Central Reserve Police because the Assam police are suspect in their eyes.

When you talk to the Assamese you find that their anger against the central Government has increased. So, too, has their resentment towards the Bengalis, the migrants whose swelling numbers stoked up tensions over the years in Assam. "We are not against the Bengalis," the Assamese insist, but the re-

INSIDE ASSAM



Part 2

relationship between the two communities has become merely formal. They seldom meet socially.

Most Bengalis, Hindus as well as Muslims, continue to believe that the student-led movement to oust what the Assamese call "foreigners" is aimed at them.

"The state is burning," Mr Hiteswar Saikia, the Chief Minister, says. "There is need for cooperation by all sides."

"There can be no peace so long as there is an unrepresentative government," according to Mr Bhriku Kumar Phukan, secretary of the All-Assam Students Union, one of the

groups leading the agitation.

Less than 2 per cent of Assamese voted in the February election, and it seems that suspension of the new state Assembly, if not its dissolution, will be the first demand if and when the agitators resume talks with the Government in Delhi.

The anti-migrants movement still commands the same respect that I saw at the beginning of the agitation in early 1981. When Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, arrived recently the leading agitators called for a blackout of the town.

Not even a candle flickered. The street lights went out as the Assamese power station workers responded to the call. The Prime Minister did not address any public meetings, and security was very tight.

The new state Government is completely alienated from the people. Its very existence is resented.

The students themselves have suspended their agitation for the time being, and that has helped to improve the situation, but what worries people in the Government and in the student movement itself is that some of the more moderate student leaders were detained in January and February, and extremists gained credibility.

Continued



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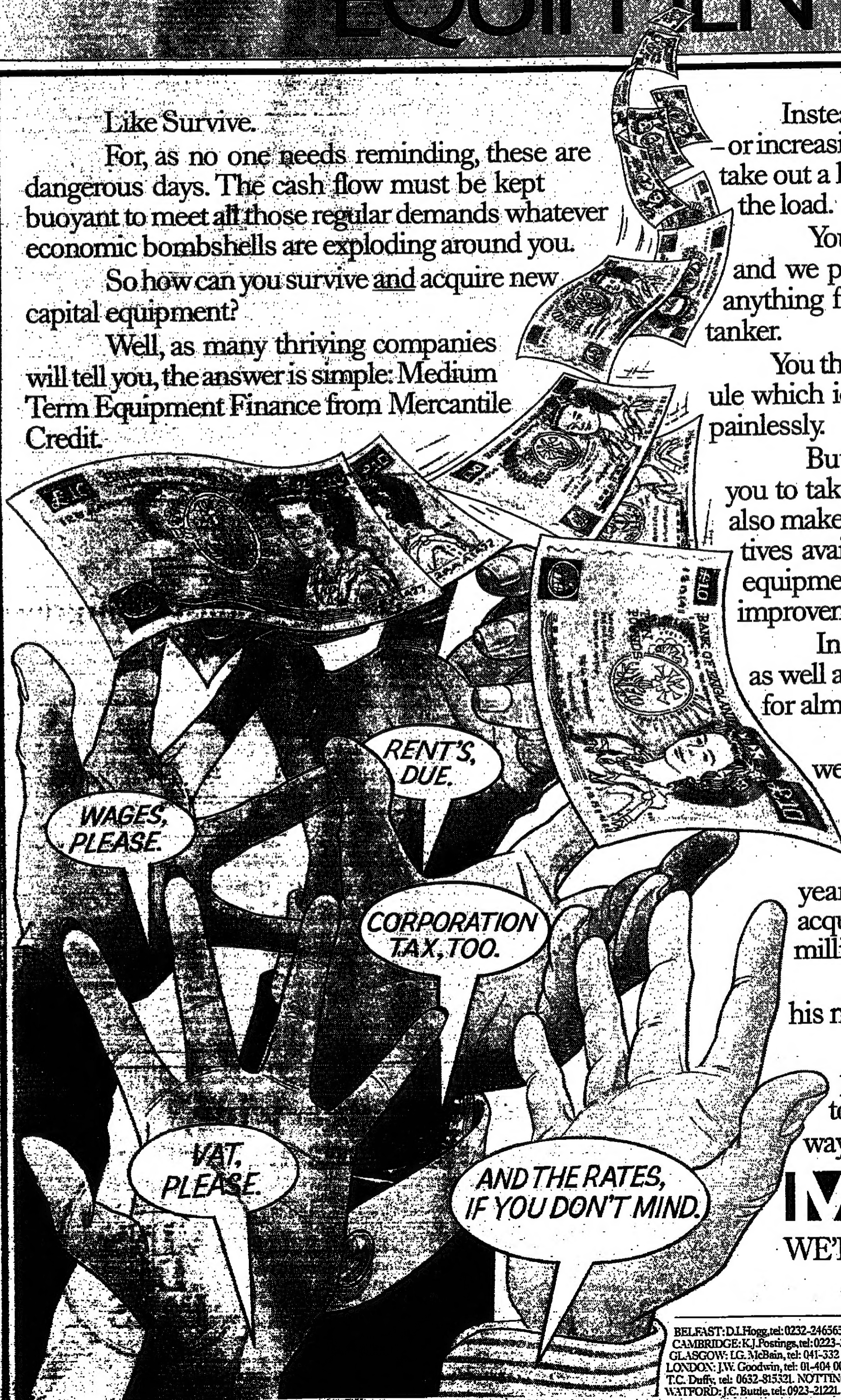
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Diplomatic crisis returns to the Middle East; Moscow steps up anti-Zionism drive; Gulf War flares again

Arafat facing ominous future with Syria in control of the PLO

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, was flying to Sweden last night on an official visit with his guerrilla movement divided as never before, his political independence ceded to Syria and his personal hopes for a Palestinian settlement in ruins.

He is to fly to Amman on Thursday, but several other PLO officials are reported to be travelling in haste to Damascus, where only 24 hours earlier, the Abu Nidal extremist Palestinian faction, had gloatingly claimed responsibility for the murder of one of Mr Arafat's closest colleagues. The presumably wanted to be on the winning side.

No comment came from Mr Arafat yesterday on the chancy conclusion to his talks with King Hussein and the effective failure of President Reagan's peace initiative. Nor was any likely to be forthcoming. In private King Hussein is said to have concluded that Mr Arafat failed as a leader because he ultimately placed the survival of the PLO above the country he aspires to rule. The PLO's integrity turned out to be more important to its leadership than the land they sought on the West Bank.

The Syrians, who have campaigned for so long to destroy the Reagan plan, were exultant. "Syria's prediction of the failure of American and Zionist plans to rule over the Arab nation and strike at the central Arab cause," bragged Damascus Radio, "has now started to take its course." But there was another more ominous note that was presumably aimed at Mr Arafat.

"All those who decide to follow Anwar Sadat's path and depart from the ranks of Arab masses will pay the price," the broadcast announced; and the PLO were left to wonder why these words sounded so like the recent statements of the Abu Nidal group. The significance of Sunday's murder in Portugal of Mr Issam Sartawi—one of the PLO's most moderate officials who wanted to recognize Israel—was obviously supposed not to be missed.

King Hussein has good reason to be angry. For not only has the PLO's indecision destroyed the American peace initiative but it has also taken away from him the opportunity to atone for the loss of the West Bank and Jerusalem in 1967. A successful negotiation for the return of the West Bank would

have afforded history a kinder interpretation of the Jordanian monarch than he is now likely to receive. Not that Mr Arafat will want to abandon him.

The King is still Mr Arafat's on conduit to the Israelis and at the Arab summit due in a week's time, the PLO leader will no doubt praise King Hussein's efforts. Perhaps he will also try vainly to resurrect the doomed negotiations.

But these are dark days for the PLO which had insisted—indeed, demanded—after its battle in Beirut last summer that its independence should henceforth be safeguarded from all Arab interference. Instead, Syria has greater control over the Palestinian guerrilla movement than ever.

It remains to be seen whether the PLO itself can survive as a coherent organization after being torn apart over the past week. Mr Arafat's leadership is repeatedly being questioned and while his imminent demise is trumpeted far too frequently in the Middle East, he will very shortly have to decide whether to move closer to Syria and align himself with the rejectionist and uncompromising policy that he has so often—in private—condemned.

Campaign puts Soviet Jews in fear

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Soviet Jews are worried by a growing anti-Zionist campaign, which they fear heralds a new wave of officially-inspired anti-Semitism.

The campaign is being spearheaded by General David Dragunsky, a veteran of the Second World War who is himself Jewish. He has made several television appearances to assail Zionism in powerful language. Attacks on Zionism have in the past been used by the Soviet authorities to encourage resentment of Jews and Jewish emigration to Israel.

Last week General Dragunsky appeared on television with two other Soviet Jewish figures, Academician Martin Kalashnikov and Professor Samuel Ziv, to launch an "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet People". He linked Zionism to "the atrocities of Israeli aggression in Lebanon" and called on "all nationalities of the Soviet Union to struggle against this man-hating ideology".

Two weeks ago Tass issued a statement signed by a number of prominent Soviet Jews urging the Soviet leadership to combat Zionism, which the statement described as "a concentration of chauvinism and racial intolerance". The US State Department said it was "deplorable that the Soviet regime should now enlist people of Jewish ancestry to participate in its anti-Semitic diatribes".

A number of Jewish writers have since come forward to condemn publicly "the bloody crimes of Zionism backed by American imperialism".

There have also been increasingly vehement condemnations in the Soviet press of Israeli policy in Lebanon and repeated warnings of an impending Israeli attack on Syria.

Jewish sources said the campaign was clearly intended to discourage Jewish emigration.

Sharon pays private call on Haddad

From Christopher Walker, Metula

Reserve General Ariel Sharon, the controversial former Israeli Defence Minister yesterday paid his first visit to Israeli-occupied Lebanon since his demotion two months ago to Minister without Portfolio after the severe criticism of his conduct by the Kahan Commission into the Beirut massacre.

Transported in a military helicopter, the former defence chief held private talks with Major Saad Haddad, the Israeli-backed Christian militia leader, whose future role is the main obstacle to agreement with Lebanon on troop withdrawal.

The unexpected trip was seen in political circles as a determined attempt by Mr Sharon to demonstrate that he is still a power inside the government at a time when negotiations with Lebanon are reaching a critical stage. He is one of Major Haddad's strongest backers inside the Cabinet.

Sources close to Mr Sharon said later he went to southern Lebanon to see for himself the situation inside the 20-mile deep security zone which Israel is demanding north of its border as a strict condition of pulling out its 30,000 troops.

Despite the criticisms, Mr Sharon has been reinstated in the two key Cabinet committees covering defence and the Lebanon talks, a move which has attracted fierce criticism from the opposition Labour Party and dismayed senior members of the Reagan Administration.

Although Mr Sharon has said remarkably little in public since his demotion, he is reported to have become increasingly critical in private of some of the moves made by his successor Mr Moshe Arens. Mr Sharon has remained a firm advocate of Israel's hard line against American pressure for compromise over the long drawn out withdrawal negotiations which continued yesterday in the Israeli resort of Netanya.

Yesterday's occasion was a remarkably low-key affair. No advance warning was given by the Government of Mr Sharon's helicopter tour, and senior Israeli officers based inside Lebanon were at a loss to explain why he should have been returning across the border at the present time.

Beyond confirming that Mr Sharon had met Major Haddad at his house in Marjayoun, a military spokesman based in Metula refused to provide any further details about the trip, which is believed to have included meetings with senior Israeli officers based in Lebanon where they are facing a dangerous upsurge of guerrilla attacks.

By coincidence, Mr Sharon's arrival in the border zone came less than 24 hours after the highest number of attacks against Israeli targets mounted on a single day for several months. In six separate incidents on Sunday, one Israeli soldier was killed and three others injured.

The ambushes continued unabated yesterday when another Israeli soldier was wounded after his armoured personnel carrier ran over a land mine planted in the eastern sector. Military sources claimed later that the mine had been planted by Palestinian guerrillas operating from behind Syrian lines where a total of 7,000 Palestinians are now estimated to be dug in alongside Syrian troops.

In recent weeks, the Israelis have stepped up their military presence inside parts of Lebanon.

Dream fulfilled

Tel Aviv (Reuters) — Lydia Yashchenko, the Soviet Pentecostalist who spent nearly four years in the US Embassy in Moscow, has arrived in Israel. She said: "This is a dream come true for me."

Andropov gets some American fan mail

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Pravda gave extracts from letters which it said Mr Yuri Andropov had received from American citizens in praise of Soviet policies, and published a photograph of some of them to prove they were authentic.

The paper first dipped into Mr Andropov's mailbag in February, when it quoted from letters sent from the United States criticizing President Reagan's arms build-up and calling for peace with Russia. Increased by a suggestion in The New York Times that some of the letters might not be authentic, Pravda yesterday

showed a selection from the latest batch with American stamps and postmarks on the envelopes.

It said letters had come to the Kremlin from all over America, from Florida to Ohio and from New York to California. "I believe you when you say you wish Americans and their families well," wrote Mr Walter States criticizing President Reagan's arms build-up and calling for peace with Russia. Increased by a suggestion in The New York Times that some of the letters might not be authentic, Pravda yesterday

had heard a lot that was good about Mr Andropov and thought he would make a good leader of the Soviet Union.

Deborah Merritt from Brattleboro, Vermont, told Mr Andropov that she wanted him to know there were a lot of people in America who, like him, were opposed to the "insane logic" of nuclear war.

Pravda said that regrettably some of the letter writers, while supporting the idea of a nuclear freeze, were unaware that Moscow had "clearly and unambiguously" offered one. Equally, Mr Carl Shleus, from

North Carolina, had favoured a reduced American arms budget provided Russia ceased its "support for the Afghan people against counter-revolutionary intervention". Mr Tom Bell from Washington thought that pro-Soviet Cuba was "too close to the United States".

Such people were the victims of "dirty work by propagandists from the military-industrial complex" and were misinformed, Pravda said. But fortunately most of the letters showed that most Americans had "common sense and a healthy practical approach".

Dioxin company defended by Swiss minister

Berne (Reuters) — Switzerland yesterday defended the chemical firm of Hoffmann-La Roche against allegations that it had concealed information from the West German Government on the whereabouts of two tonnes of highly-toxic dioxin waste.

The waste, from the disaster at the Hoffmann-La Roche chemical plant at Seveso in Italy in 1976, was moved from Italy last year to an undisclosed destination.

Mr Alphons Egli, the Swiss Minister of the Interior, said yesterday that he was convinced that Hoffmann-La Roche had behaved honourably.

French ease tourist restrictions

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The Government has made important concessions over its planned restrictions on foreign travel by French tourists after talks with travel agents who had claimed that thousands of their jobs were threatened. Pre-paid package holidays are no longer to be subject to any cost limit.

Under the measures first announced by the Government as part of its austerity package on March 25 French tourists were to be restricted to spending a maximum of two thousand francs (£180) per adult per year on foreign holidays, plus 1,000 francs per child. The use of credit cards abroad was prohibited.

The ferocity of the ensuing outcry took the Government

by surprise, and the measures were immediately relaxed so as to allow spending of 2,000 francs in foreign currency for each person over the age of nine and 1,000 francs for each younger child, plus a further 1,000 francs in French currency per person. The cost of air fares or other travel was not to be included in the limit.

That meant that a family of four with two teenage children could spend up to 12,000 francs or nearly £1,100 on their foreign holiday, excluding the cost of getting there. Businessmen were to be limited to spending 1,000 francs a day in foreign currency.

The latest concessions go much further. Tourists can now go for package holidays abroad,

with no limit on cost, provided those holidays were advertised before March 25, and still be entitled to take with them 250 francs per person over the age of nine in foreign currency if on full board, or 750 francs if on half-board, plus 1,000 francs per person in French currency.

It was all the idea of a retired British businessman, Mr David Lloyd-Jacob, who has spent many years in New York and thought the 20th anniversary of this year of the Treaty of Paris which ended the American independence battle, should be commemorated in a spectacular way.

Many British dignitaries are expected to turn up at different times. Everybody's hope is that the Prince and Princess of Wales will pay a visit.

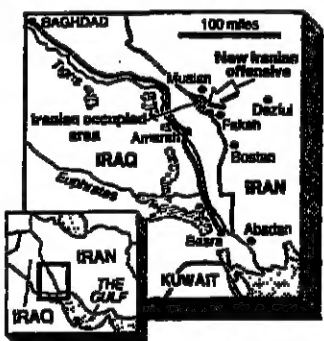
Iran claims victory in big Gulf offensive

Bahrain (Reuters) — Iran, launching a new offensive in its Gulf war with Iraq, said yesterday it had recaptured a large area of Iranian territory and killed or wounded 3,000 Iraqi soldiers.

Iraq confirmed the offensive but said its forces beat off most of the Iranian thrust and captured 300 Iraqis. Both sides reported that fierce fighting continued yesterday in an area between Iraq's Missan province and the Iranian provinces of Ilam and Khuzestan. There had been a relative lull in recent weeks in the two-and-a-half-year war.

There had also been speculation recently that they might agree to at least a limited ceasefire to allow the capping of damaged Iranian oil wells which have been leaking thousands of barrels of crude oil into the gulf.

The result of the leak has been a huge slick extending far across the strategic waterway and endangering the coasts of countries around the Gulf. Iran says the wells were hit by Iraqi fire in February and March.



The latest Iranian attack, which began on Sunday night, was a continuation of the Iranian offensive launched in February, according to a communiqué broadcast by Tehran radio.

Iraq, in a military communiqué, said the Iranians attacked along a 20-mile front, with the heaviest fighting occurring in an area between the border villages of al Fila and Zubair. A later communiqué said most of the Iranian thrust had been beaten back but fierce fighting continued.

IRA threat to British festival

From Christopher Thomas, New York

An extraordinary festival of British culture — dance, theatre, sport, art and music — opens tonight in New York, and will continue throughout the summer.

There will be a dazzling array of activity involving the Royal Ballet, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the London Symphony Orchestra and many others. There will be at least 200 different events but IRA supporters are threatening disruption.

The festival, entitled "Britain salutes New York," is being financed by private industry. The event has assumed an enormous status value and there has been no problem persuading industry to put up about \$3.5m (£2.3m).

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Many British dignitaries are expected to turn up at different times. Everybody's hope is that the Prince and Princess of Wales will pay a visit.

Oil slick closes water plant

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia ordered the temporary closure of a desalination plant drawing water from the Gulf yesterday as an oil slick from damaged Iranian oilwells approached the Saudi coast, Reuters reports. The King has also banned fishing in polluted areas.

Internal affairs of the other side. (Olof Palme the Swedish Prime Minister) has made it clear to us what this would mean. He said that the public media of the Islamic Republic for its leaders would have to delete from their proclamations any remarks that could incite the Iraqi nation against the Baathists. Probably most of the programme in the Arabic radio (of Iran) would have to be dropped, and the activities of Iraqi exiles here curbed.

One paragraph of the incomplete document reads: "You ought to know that accepting a peace treaty would not merely weaken the hopes of Islamic nations in the power of Islam but is blasphemous."

"One of the basic conditions of any peace treaty would be to refrain from interference in the

Seven die in fighting at squatters' camp

Cape Town (Reuters) — Seven people died in factional fighting between rival groups in a black squatters' camp outside Cape Town on Sunday, police said yesterday. Another 26 were injured, some seriously.

A spokesman amended an earlier count of eight dead by saying that the charred remains of what had been thought to be an infant turned out to be a dog. Panga, axes and firearms were used in a pitched battle involving some 100 camp dwellers over still unexplained antagonisms. Five destroyed five shacks, a school and several vehicles and police said four of the victims died of burns and three from axe or panga wounds.

A clergyman working in the area said a big source of tension was the presence of some 6,000 people who had been living in the camp illegally since 1978.

Oxfam aid gets through

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Reassurances about the distribution of aid in the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia has come from Oxfam, who have had a senior official in the region for the last four weeks.

Dr Paul Shears, Health Coordinator, said yesterday on his return that food provided through the EEC aid programme was definitely reaching people in the most severely affected areas such as Wollo and Gondar.

Not only was it helping to prevent malnutrition, but by reaching people in their villages it was encouraging them to remain there rather than crowd into refugee centres.

This meant that when the rains did eventually begin, they would be on the spot ready to plant crops for the next harvest.

Top-level team to see Sultan

Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, flies to Brunei with a full team of officials on Thursday, for a weekend of talks over the oil-rich sultanate's forthcoming independence, Henry Stanhope writes.

Reports that Mr Arthur Watson, High Commissioner in Brunei, had been recalled amid an "atmosphere of strained relations" with the Sultan were side-stepped by officials in Whitehall.

Relations between the two countries were "pretty good", they said. Mr Watson had returned only because he had completed four and a half years' service there.

Negotiations over the details of Brunei's independence were postponed in January when the Sultan objected to the low-level British team.

13 technicians held hostage

Algiers (AFP) — Thirteen foreign technicians, two of them British, employed by a West German geophysical prospecting firm have been held prisoner by Algerian workers in a site in southern Algeria since Monday. They have been prevented from leaving the site by about 100 Algerians protesting for higher pay and improved working conditions.

Peking calls back editors

Peking (AFP) — A group of Chinese editors cut short a study tour of the United States and returned to Peking after China's suspension of all sports and cultural exchanges with the United States.

It was the first concrete action taken by China to protest at the United States decision to give political asylum to Hu Na the young Chinese tennis star.

Big US guns reach front

Bangkok (Reuters) — Two C5 Galaxy aircraft loaded with eight 155mm howitzers landed in Bangkok after a non-stop flight from the United States. It was the second shipment of American weapons to arrive on Thailand's request.

The giant guns were immediately taken to the Cambodian border, where Thai and Vietnamese-led Cambodian troops are locked in artillery battles.

Town under the hammer

Mary Kathleen (Reuters) — A week-long auction of the uranium mining town of Mary Kathleen in the Australian outback began with two churches, bus shelters and a supermarket, all iron-framed, up for sale. The 226 houses have already been sold.

Mary Kathleen, 900 miles northwest of Brisbane, was built in the late 1950s to provide Britain with uranium oxide. The ore ran out. In October, the land will revert to pasture for sheep.

Soviet sacking

Moscow (AFP) — Mr Vladimir Lomoposov, president of the Soviet state labour and social affairs committee, has been dismissed and replaced by Mr Yuri Batalin, First Deputy Minister for oil and gas industry, factory construction, Tass reported.

Lippizaner 2

Graz (Reuters) — Austria's Agriculture Minister Herr Günther Haiden disclosed plans to set up a second farm to breed Lippizaner horses to reduce the danger of virus infections. His ministry administers the stud farm at Fibers, where 36 of the famous horses died from a rare combination of viruses.

Novosti's chief

Moscow (AP) — Mr Pavel Naumov, aged 63, becomes head of the semi-official Soviet news agency, Novosti. Previously deputy head, he replaces Mr Lev Tolstomir, who was appointed Editor-in-Chief of Izvestia in February.

First black

Harare (Reuters) — The Zimbabwe Government appointed Mr Charles Ute as the country's first black Secretary to the Cabinet, the top civil service job. Mr Ute, aged 44, replaces Mr George Smith, reassigned to the Justice Ministry.

Corsica blasts

Ajaccio (AP) — Seven explosions destroyed holiday homes in Corsica, owned by residents of Paris and in one case, West Germany. Since April, there have been 25 such attacks, blamed on separatists seeking to end French rule.

Coal line

Peking (Reuters) — China is planning a 430-mile pipeline to transport coal from Inner Mongolia to the United States energy group, is to build a new mine.

Polish Government takes steps to control impact of Pope's visit

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish Government's deep anxiety about the possibility of pro-Solidarity demonstrations and social unrest during the Papal visit to Poland in June has become clear in its negotiations with the Catholic Church.

The church, though it will continue to press for a general amnesty for those arrested under martial law, appears to be reconciled to more piecemeal concessions before the Pope arrives. Officials hint that the process of granting clemency on an individual basis to some imprisoned Solidarity activists may be speeded up.

They are also suggesting that the Government is ready to allow the establishment of a Papal Nuncio in Warsaw, though the church would prefer to wait and see how successfully the Pope's trip is managed before committing itself to such an upgrading of diplomatic relations, between the Vatican and a communist country.

Even so, the planning of the trip is notable for its attempts to

cushion the Pope from the masses. He will be based in the Jasna Gora monastery in Czestochowa for four days, and will fly by helicopter to other cities, thereby reducing the need for public car journeys.

There is little stress on open-air Masses - probably only one will be staged - and television planners are hoping to give the visit broader coverage than in 1979, to reduce the number of people on the streets. Some factories will have television monitors, again with the idea of keeping down the crowds.

These elaborate precautions serve the joint purpose of increasing crowd control, ensuring that crowds do not become demonstrations, and improving the personal security of the Pope.

Any meeting with Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, would almost certainly be in private, as a joint public appearance would be socially explosive.

A meeting with General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, is

envisaged early in the tour, and it is understood that Archbishop Luigi Poggi, a Vatican expert on East European affairs, has been consulted on the protocol of the talks.

Church sources emphasize, however, that the visit has not been neutered in the negotiations. The Pope has scope in his sermons to criticize the status quo in Poland. Moreover, the church has won the important concession of a visit to Poznan on or around the anniversary of the 1956 workers' riots.

A trip is also planned to a miners' shrine in Silesia, where prayers are likely to be said for the miners shot by militiamen in clashes at the Wujek colliery soon after the declaration of martial law in December, 1981.

Officials seem adamant that martial law will not be lifted (it is only suspended at present) before the Papal visit.

Activist on trial Mr Edmund Balukawa, a prominent Solidarity activist in Szczecin went on trial before a military

court in Bydgoszcz yesterday. In February the European Parliament's Socialist group appealed for his release, after reports that he had begun a hunger strike. He is charged with advocating the overthrow of the socialist system and the withdrawal of Poland from the Warsaw Pact.

Popular complaints: Mr Albin Siwak, regarded as a dogmatic Marxist within the Polish Politburo, yesterday called for tough controls on managers, chairmen of factories and high officials, and admitted that he had received many complaints from ordinary working people.

"They often report to me facts which are reminiscent of Wild West films or scenes from the Middle Ages. I find it deplorable that the majority of these complaints turns out to be true."

Mr Siwak, who was writing in the daily *Trybuna Ludu*, is in charge of the complaints department of the Communist Party Central Committee.

Poll rebuff for Nakasone policies

Tokyo (Reuters) - Leaders of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) admitted yesterday that its defeat in two key local elections amounted to a severe rebuff for Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, and his policies.

Mr Nakasone, criticized by left-wing opponents for his hardline defence stand, said of the results from the two areas considered particularly vital in the voting for local bodies across the country: "I sincerely accept the realities and will pull myself together."

He indicated that the results had sharply reduced the chances of a general election in June. He told reporters: "Lower House members should in principle complete their terms. I'm not thinking of a dissolution."

The four-year term of the Lower House is not due to end until June 1984 and an early poll had been predicted if the LDP did well in key areas. Instead, a Socialist was elected Governor in Hokkaido prefecture in northern Japan to end 24 years of conservative rule, while a Socialist-Communist candi-

date became Governor of Fukuoka in the south where the LDP had reigned for 16 years.

Mr Takao Fujinami, the Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, said the LDP accepted the outcome as a stern criticism of the Administration.

Mr Takao Fukuda, the former Prime Minister, who is a strong critic of Mr Nakasone within the party, called the results utterly unexpected. "Both the Government and the Liberal Democratic Party should solemnly reflect on them," he said.



Imee Marcos: Secret marriage after eloping

Manila's worst-kept secret out

From David Watts, Manila

Imee, the eldest daughter of President and Mrs Imelda Marcos, has given birth to a son in Hawaii and Manila's worst kept secret is out.

For months Imee's pregnancy has been the capital's hottest gossip in a city where the "First Family" dominates all the media.

But not a word of the impending confinement in the seclusion of a friend's house near Diamond Head has leaked into the newspapers or on to Manila's television stations. Imee's controversial marriage to a divorced basketball coach, Tommy Manotoc, a year ago is too recent for that. Mr Manotoc was formerly married to a beauty queen.

Mr Marcos had always had great marriage ambitions for the beautiful and talented Imee which were shattered when she eloped with Mr Manotoc to the United States and married him secretly.

The elopement was short lived but not Mrs Marcos's opposition to the marriage. Not long afterwards Mr Manotoc was mysteriously kidnapped and disappeared for six weeks. He reappeared equally mysteriously after allegedly being rescued by the army.

The Marcos "family" have never publicly acknowledged the marriage, not least because Mrs Marcos, had other ambitions for Imee but also relatives of Mr Manotoc in the United States are leading anti-Marcos movements.

The Marcos' first grandchild weighed in at 6lb 8oz and is in good health. All Manila now waits to see if Mrs Marcos will fly to Honolulu to see the child. In public, at least, the two women have lately appeared to be on better terms.

Greenland vote may alter relations with Brussels

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Greenland's 32,000 electorate votes today in local elections, the result of which could affect the current delicate negotiations in Brussels on the territory's withdrawal from the EEC.

The elections are only the second in the vast icebound island since it achieved home rule under the Danish crown in 1979 and the first since Greenland narrowly voted to leave the EEC in a referendum last year.

Recently revised electoral laws make the outcome of the elections hard to predict, but the ruling moderate leftist anti-EEC Siumut party of Mr Johathan Motzfeldt, current chairman of the local Greenland Landsting (parliament) in the capital Godthaab is expected to lose ground to the opposition rightist and pro-Market Atassut party, paving the way for a minority administration.

The possibilities are wide. The two main parties could combine, or either of them could

ally with the leftist Inuit (Eskimo) party. There is also a "wild card" - an independent rightist candidate standing for the 1,200 newly-enfranchised Danes working at US military bases on Greenland. In the 26-seat Landsting one vote could make all the difference.

There is nonetheless broad political consensus in Greenland to seek an OLT (Overseas Lands and Territories) associate arrangement with the EEC, using the island's considerable offshore fish resources as a lever in negotiations with Brussels for withdrawal from the EEC by January 1, 1984.

West German trawlers currently fish some 16,000 tonnes of cod out of a total annual catch around 60,000 tonnes of the species off east and west Greenland, where French fishermen also take sizeable shrimp catches.

Greenland, which first became a Danish colony in 1721, originally joined the EEC along with Denmark in 1973.

Athens says yes, but... to EEC proposals

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Greek Government told the European Commission yesterday that it was encouraged by its proposals for helping the economy to overcome the difficulties involved in community membership. It asked however, for further consultations to clarify some points.

The Greek reaction, described by experts as a qualified "yes", was communicated to Mr Richard Burke, the European Commissioner in charge of the memorandum, submitted by Greece last year, who visited Athens briefly yesterday.

After a meeting with Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, and his princi-

pal ministers, Mr Burke said at a press conference: "I am reasonably optimistic. The ministers gave me the impression that they were happy with the response given to the memorandum."

President Karamanlis, who is the architect of Greece's accession to the EEC made one of his rare press statements after receiving Mr Burke.

"The Commissioner's proposals are inspired by goodwill", he added, "and show understanding for the problems of the Greek economy. I believe the European Council will adopt them and improve them as suggested."

S Africa: Barbara Hogan

By Caroline Moorehead

A South African postgraduate student who helped to organize trade unions for black workers is serving a 10-year prison sentence. Since her arrest, Barbara Hogan, aged 31, has alleged that she was beaten up by security police. Two officers have been tried for assault, but acquitted after the magistrate ruled that her word alone was not enough to convict them.

On October 21, 1982, the Rand Supreme Court in Johannesburg sentenced Miss Hogan for treason. She had admitted to belonging to the banned African National Congress (ANC), but denied being a member of its military wing, or having taken part in violent activities. In the past, only members of this wing, Spear of the Nation, have been charged with treason and convicted.

Before her arrest, however,



Miss Hogan: Actions seen as treason



Prisoners of conscience

Miss Hogan had worked for the South African Institute of Race Relations, and had helped to arrange boycotts by the black community of companies involved in industrial disputes. The court was therefore able to declare that, since she was also a member of ANC, her activities had in effect furthered the organization's aims, one of which, the Government says, is to bring about the violent overthrow of the state. Though her offence was admitted to be "of rather a technical nature" her actions were judged as treasonable.

Since being taken into detention, Miss Hogan has spent some time in solitary confinement. A district surgeon called in to examine her at the time of her trial, has reported the presence of injuries he did not believe could have been self-inflicted.

Finns begin the search for new coalition

From Our Correspondent, Helsinki

Finland's centre-left coalition, led by Mr Kalevi Sorsa, resigned yesterday and talks began on forming a new Government following the recent general election.

President Koivisto started the process by asking Mr Erkki Pystynen, the new Speaker of the Eduskunta, Finland's unicameral parliament, to find out what kind of a coalition is feasible.

Mr Pystynen, a conservative, is not, however, a Prime Minister-designate, who will be named after preliminary soundings are completed.

Mr Sorsa is the strongest candidate to succeed himself in the post of Prime Minister and the new coalition will almost certainly include the present coalition partners: Mr Sorsa's Social Democrats the Centre Party and the Swedish Peoples Party.

These three parties made gains in the elections last month. The Communists, who have been the fourth regular partner for more than a decade, lost heavily. Their internal quarrels are worse than ever and are likely to keep them in opposition. The party may split into two before the summer.

All important political leaders emphasize the need to form a broadly based coalition.



Over and out: Enrique Vera, a Banderillero, coming to grief while trying to plant his barbed darts in the bull's neck during a bullfight at Castellón, eastern Spain, on Sunday. He was taken to hospital with minor injuries.

Afghanistan negotiators show mood of optimism

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

In an atmosphere of determined optimism, two weeks of discussions on resolving the Afghanistan problem began at the Palais des Nations in Geneva yesterday, with the UN special representative, Señor Diego Cordóvez, acting as intermediary between Afghan and Pakistani delegations headed by their respective foreign ministers.

Mr Yagub Khan, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, whose delegation went first to talk with Señor Cordóvez, said that whatever the difficulties, which could not be underestimated, the meetings should be "conducted in a positive spirit as a constructive endeavour to try to achieve some progress".

Since the previous round, last June, it had been possible to go gradually into greater detail as an approach to the substance of the problem. His Afghan counterpart, Mr Mohamed Dost, whose delegation went to the same room later to confer with the UN representative, declined to comment.

Señor Cordóvez has indicated that, as before, he is keeping the Iranians and the Russians informed of any significant development. Though Afghan resistance leaders maintain, of course, that without direct involvement of either Soviet or resistance representatives, the discussions are unrealistic.

For his part, Señor Cordóvez speaks with assurance about "a convergence of determination to reach a comprehensive settlement". This, he says, is being shown by all governments concerned, without exception.



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SPECTRUM



The rain is advancing in cold, violent gusts, hiding the hills and reducing visibility to almost nothing as we pick our way along the narrow high-banked Devon lanes. Somewhere east of Okehampton we are halted by a tar-laying machine occupying the entire width of the road; retracing our steps and taking a still more circuitous route, we arrive only a few minutes late at one of these medium-sized Victorian gothic piles that look as though they were always intended to end their days as preparatory schools or convalescent homes.

In fact, Nethercott House is nothing of the sort: it is the headquarters of a unique project to bring children from what are conventionally known as deprived inner city areas into contact with rural life, encompassed not in picture postcards from the National Trust but in a muddy and frequently malodorous working farm.

Farms for City Children was founded eight years ago by Michael Morpurgo, a one-time Sandhurst graduate, army officer and later teacher in Kent, who has since learned to farm and earns a partial living as a writer of children's books (his latest, *War Horses*, was runner up for this year's Whitbread prize).

He and his wife, Clare, who was also trained as a teacher, had for some time cherished the idea of a project which would give urban children some understanding of what was for most of them a foreign country, inhabited by aliens. The opportunity to realise their ambition arrived



Somewhere east of Okehampton, John Young finds a farm where children can muck out the stables, feed the ducks and forget television.

Where city and country meet

providentially when their Land Rover got stuck in a ditch and had to be rescued by a tractor belonging to a local farmer, John Ward.

Casual acquaintance quickly blossomed into a business relationship. The Morpurgos, who had bought some land adjoining the Wards' farm, offered to make it available for extra grazing if, in return, John and his sons, David and Graham, would agree to groups of noisy urchins trailing after them as they milked the cows and made the hay.

If they needed any further convincing that their dreams and destiny were in tune, Nethercott House itself came on to the market. "Originally we had intended to find somewhere nearer London and take children on a daily basis," Michael recalls. "But now we were able to offer them accommodation for a whole week at a time."

By the time we finished lunch, the rain has cleared and the third year pupils of

the English Martyrs Roman Catholic primary school in Walworth, south east London, are ready for their daily round of farm tasks. Mary Paterson, one of the three teachers accompanying them, is on her twelfth visit. Asked if she sometimes feels more like a farmer than a teacher, she replies feelingly, "I wish I was." Not all of them feel the same way. The Morpurgos have unhappy memories of "stropgy" teachers who, in Michael's words, "did nothing but lean on their spades and complain."

"I used to dread confronting teachers who were not prepared to cooperate or to keep the children in order," Clare confesses. "But now it doesn't worry me in the slightest. In any case most of the schools come back each year, and we've had the chance to sort out the ones we don't want and tell them politely that they're not welcome."

The 40 or so children have been split into three or four groups, and about a

dozen of them make their way down a muddy lane to the dairy, carrying pails and scrubbing brushes. Work in the dairy is accompanied by loud and spontaneous singing of "Daisy, Daisy", presumably in tribute to one of the cows, and "Old MacDonald's Farm."

Clare intersperses the work with little lectures. The male donkey has been gelded so he cannot give his companion any more babies. One of the hens has a bald spot on its back where it has been attacked by the others, the penalty of being bottom of the pecking order. A bright red comb indicates when a bird is laying eggs.

Each week of hard, healthy work costs a child's parents, or in some cases the local education authority, £45. The Inner London authority has strongly supported the scheme, and most schools taking part are from London or Birmingham. "It is quite different from the usual sort of school outing to Butlin's or the Isle of Wight," Michael emphasises. "The children come

here to work and to learn, and sometimes at first it's quite difficult for them to understand this."

Nethercott takes about 1,000 children a year, but the £45,000 or so they provide in income falls well short of the estimated running cost of at least £65,000. Some schools have been active in raising funds, and a Birmingham headmaster recently earned £600 by undertaking a sponsored walk from his school to the village of Iddesleigh, about a mile from Nethercott. Other aid has come from a variety of charities and from the BBC, Capital Radio and Sotheby's.

There have been occasional groups of handicapped children which were, according to Michael, "a marvellous success. The kids were such fun. The ironic thing is that if we were catering just for handicapped children, we would have no difficulty raising funds. But when most of the time we're dealing with just ordinary children, people tend to shrug their shoulders and



imagine that the state looks after them, or should do."

Pigs are fed and piglets cuddled. Calves are released to race greedily to a pair of suckler cows. "Hey, that's a pedigree bull calf, it's worth £150, so don't kill it," Graham Ward shouts in mock alarm. "How many tests has a cow got? Where do hamburgers come from? What's a female sheep called?" Hands shoot up, faces beam, hay is fed to heifers, fresh straw is laid over carpets of dung. "Not quite like the picture books, is it?" Graham grins.

Next morning the sun is shining between scudding black clouds as we set off in gumboots across the muddy slopes to bring supplementary rations to the cows in a steep distant field. Mary O'Sullivan, the school's headmistress, cheerfully bumping a sack of hay, says that on her first visit four years ago the Nethercott scheme was seen as a one-week experience, soon to be forgotten. Now it is integrated into a whole programme of environmental studies, each independent with the others. The children's enthusiasm is astonishing. They haven't watched television all week and, do you know, no one has ever once mentioned it."

Back in the main house, Lorraine Boyle, aged 10, produces her diary. "On Monday we stayed in and made the beds and swept the yard and took the horses down to the field and fed the ducks, chickens and cockerels and took the donkeys down to the field and cleared out the horses' stables and fed them and stayed in that night and had a rest. It was good that day."

In Tom Stonier's post-industrial future, surplus wealth will be distributed by a system of negative income tax

Visions of a world gone sane

By Neil Lyndon

Professor Tom Stonier might say of himself the words with which Saul Bellow's Herzog was introduced: "If I'm out of my mind, it's all right with me."

Stonier and the fictional Herzog share many similarities: both are American Jews, academics, vague in manner and disordered with possessions but possessed by a mania to impose a compensating order. Both are voluble, even garrulous, endlessly inventive and always losing points of order, departure and conclusion in cascades of parentheses and by-the-ways. Tough cities of the north engage the affections of both: Herzog's Chicago is Stonier's Bradford, where he is Professor of Science and Society.

But where Herzog sailed in circles on a personal odyssey of introspection and self-examination, Stonier has embarked upon a voyage of discovery into seas of cosmological knowledge; and he has addressed his mind to, among other topics, the future of civilization, the economic development of the West, the end of all war, the substitution of natural energy sources for mineral fuels, and the growth of cancer cells in plants. Like one of Les Dawson's characters, Stonier can be imagined appearing on *Mastermind* and giving his chosen subject as "The Universe and all its contents".

On his new book, *The Wealth of Information*, he says: "It is an effort to kill off economic superstition and an attempt to focus a national discussion on the means to get out of the present economic mess, using post-industrial thinking."

Stonier's book takes its title and a part of its intellectual direction from Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*, acting as a complementary voice to that key work of economic description and applying some of its methods, if not its terms, to the present day. Stonier says that where Smith wrote, in 1776, at the decisive moment of transition in Britain from an agrarian to an industrial society, we find ourselves today at an analogous point of transition from an industrial to a post-industrial society. In that post-industrial society, he says, information

is the decisive commodity, displacing "land, labour and capital as the most important input into modern productive systems."

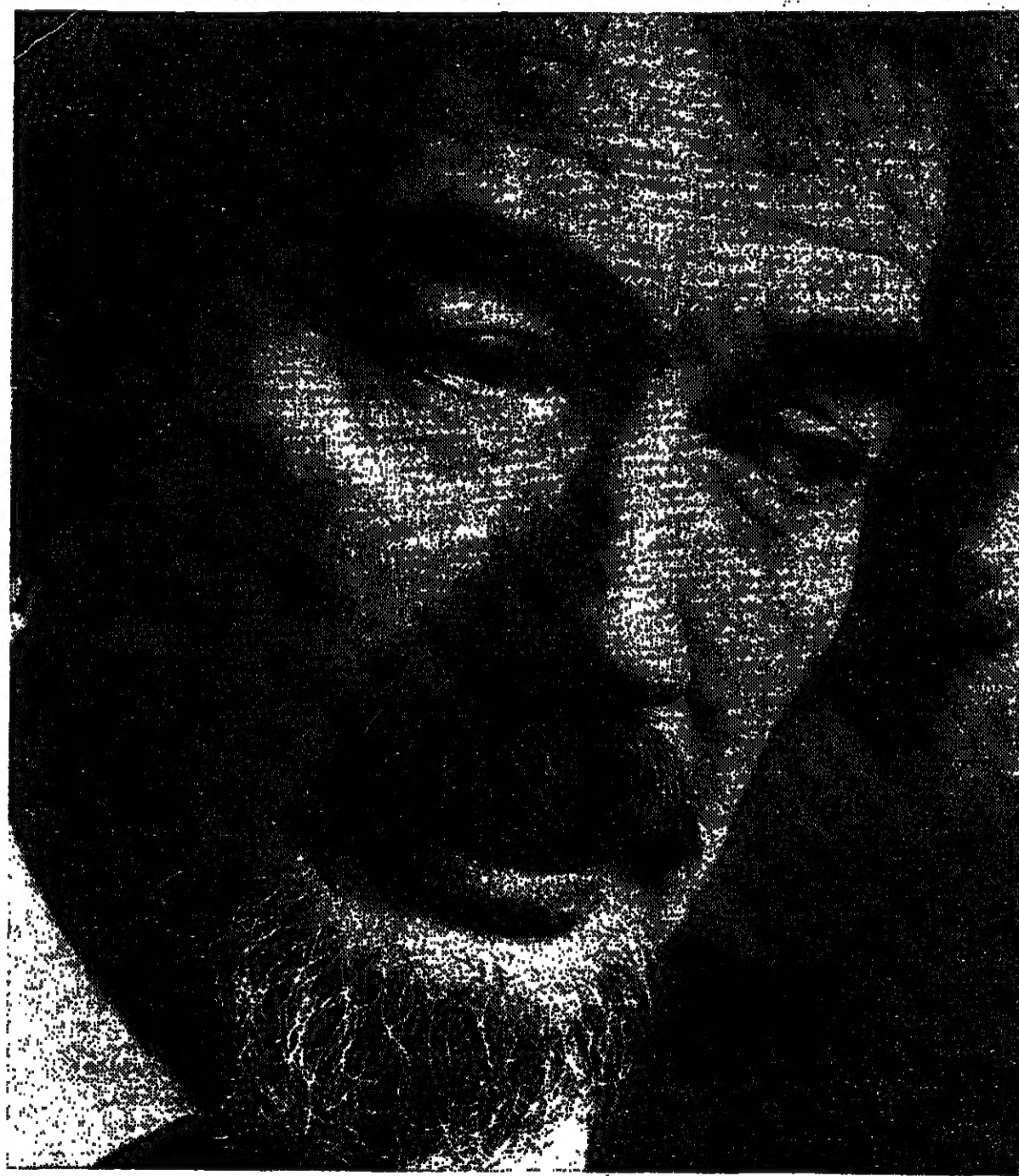
Stonier acknowledges no need - as in the models of the left - for the protection by tariff of Britain's heavy industries: "Let steel go, let automobiles go," he declares. The developing countries of the world should, he says, be the suppliers of industrial production to such post-industrial societies as Britain.

At the same time, Stonier antagonizes the Thatcherites in reversing the dictum of Adam Smith that the interference of government inhibits the growth of wealth: government in a post-industrial society, Stonier says, is not to be seen as a consumer of wealth but as the key force for investment in the knowledge industries which create wealth. As might be expected of a university professor, especially one faced, as Stonier is, with the closure of his department following government spending cuts, he thinks that the expansion of the higher education system is essential to Britain's transition to a post-industrial economy; and that spending on universities should not be considered philanthropic but directly productive of wealth.

What does he mean when he says that information is wealth? A vast and messy multitude of things, apparently. The information which creates a robot which, in turn, performs a productive task is wealth. The computer systems which maintain the electronic flow of credit are a form of wealth. The silicon-chip technology by which a desert can be irrigated and made to bloom is a form of wealth: "Wealth," he says, "is created when a non-resource is converted into a resource as a result of applying information."

The man who has taken on and contradicted all the leading contemporary theories of economic management is not, by early training, an economist (and thus he appears shaky on some elements of classical economics, such as prices). Now 56, he took his university education, at Drew and Yale, in microbiology.

During the late 1950s and the



Information, Professor Stonier says, is the means by which to regenerate Britain's prosperity

1960s, he applied his scientific knowledge to the effects of radiation and fall-out from nuclear explosions and was a leading member of a group of American scientists who publicized these effects and campaigned against the testing of nuclear weapons. From 1971-1975 he was Director of Peace Studies at Manhattan College, where he developed his view that war between developed post-industrial societies is "an institution on the demise".

A kind of personal terror seems to inspire Tom Stonier to wish to become intellectual master of all the world's territories of knowledge. It is the fear that if he cannot understand the world, it will run madly into chaos and holocaust. He acknowledges that the mainspring of this terror and of his compensating desire for omniscience is likely to have been his early childhood experiences of running, as a refugee, from Nazi Germany, from which his family fled in 1936, first to Holland and then to New York. Stonier's father was unusual among the Jews of Hamburg, he says, for seeing plainly that Hitler's attitudes towards the Jews must lead to their destruction; and thus he affirms his debt to his father for a fixed belief that understanding

and foresight are weapons and tools by which catastrophes may be averted. "If you know enough," says Stonier, "you can alter the path of human development."

This axiom, among others, places Tom Stonier as a Utopian of the old European schools, one who believes that social ills may not be intrinsic to human life but may be alleviated by applied reason and understanding. For instance, he supposes that the ancient antagonism of the people of Northern Ireland would soon evaporate if the proper order of post-industrial investment was made there - in education, in the new information industries, in the use of natural sources of energy, in agriculture and in fish-farming. In his book, he succinctly derides such a futile and cost-inefficient investment in conventional industry as De Lorean Motor Cars, showing how the £57m invested there to provide 2,000 jobs might, applied to the education system, create 10 times that level of employment. On this issue he speaks from a firm platform of direct personal knowledge: in Bradford, traditionally one of the industrial powerhouses of Britain, the largest employer today is the council, closely followed by the university.

Economists of all conventional schools - Keynesians and monetarists alike - might say that a society so lopsided as Bradford in its bias towards services unproductive of materials and commodities (wealth as it has been known) cannot stand. Stonier would answer that they have failed to grasp a cardinal shift in the economy. "Within 30 years," he says, "it will take no more than 10 per cent of the labour force to produce all of society's material needs - all food, clothing, textiles, furniture, appliances, automobiles, housing, et cetera."

At the end of our conversation, as at the end of his new book, Tom Stonier spoke of further visions which he blurred with an embarrassed reticence, lest he be thought a crank or crackpot: a vision, for example, of a post-industrial society so wealthy that it can, like Alaska in 1980, afford a negative income-tax and distribute surplus revenues in cash to its citizens. "I believe that we are witnessing the beginnings of a process as profound as the origin of life itself," he says.

If Tom Stonier is out of his mind, it seems to be all right with him; and he certainly does not seem to be harming anybody else. But what if he is right?

MORFOVER... Miles Kingston

Keeping life's great goal in view

Hello, Phil Marsh here. The Reverend Phil Marsh, Football Adviser to the Church of England. Yes, Fund-raising Phil.

I'm here today to make an appeal on behalf of this week's good cause. I wonder if you can guess what that is? Do you know what needs support more desperately than anything else in British life today?

That's right, British football. Once upon a time, football was the most popular leisure activity in Britain, after religion. Every week twenty million people would turn up at Old Trafford, and that was just on the days when Manchester United were playing away. But now football ranks 39th in the list of British sports, lower even than stamp collecting, lawn-mower racing and budgie-baiting. This can't be right.

And now things may be even worse, if football disappears from television. In future you may switch on for the match of the day to find yourself watching basketball on ice from Stockholm or underwater surfing from Australia. This can't be right, either.

One of our basic human rights, along with the right to strike and the right to waste time in the last five minutes, is the right to "switch on" the television at any time of night or day and see a man called Brian saying "More football after the break."

We at the Church of England Home for Distressed Footballers have already seen the effect on young players. There are young men here who have decided to devote the best years of their life, between 19 and 21,

to the game they love, and are still earning less than a million pounds a year. This tragedy can't be right.

I especially remember one young man who arrived last month, discarded by his team simply because he wasn't playing well enough. I bade him welcome. He responded by aiming a vicious kick at my shins. Later, he explained his action thus: "Sorry, Rev. I thought you were going to retaliate."

Luckily I was an old enough hand to see this coming, and managed to scythe him down before he could get me. This young man is now in hospital, where we can look after him. But for this sort of work we need money, and that is why we are asking each of you to send a million pounds to help British football.

There are some people who say that British football is too far gone, and that we now have to pray for its soul. But believe me, we have tried that all this season. And now England does not have a single team left in the European competitions. What God is telling us, I think, is to roll down our socks and get really stuck in. This must be right, surely.

We in the Church of England are especially aware of football's plight, as religion itself used to be Britain's top leisure activity and we are now even lower down the list than football. We need even more money than football, if that is possible. In fact, religion will be next week's good cause and I'll be back then to tell you more about this wonderful pastime.

Meanwhile, though, all we ask for football is a million pounds each. It isn't much, but of their life, between 19 and 21, it's a start.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No. 36)

ACROSS	1 Incidental remarks (6)	5 Seabird (4)	8 Insect (5)	9 Exterior (7)	11 Openly (8)	13 Actor's part (4)	15 Watertight enclosure (9)	18 Shoe fastener (4)	19 Geological balance (8)	22 More vacant (7)	24 Sum (5)	25 Eyelid infection (4)	26 Greek paper (6)
DOWN	2 Indian title (5)	3 Father (5)	4 Garment support (8,5)	6 Location (4)	7 Unchanging (7)	10 Pleased (5)	12 Pitcher (4)	14 Likelihood (4)	16 Pilot's place (7)	17 Series of events (9)	20 Sacrificial place (5)	21 Drink (4)	23 Knock (5)

SOLUTION TO No. 35

ACROSS: 1 Unconfirmed 9 Indulge 10 Taste 11 Ash 13 Any 16 Part 17 Virile 18 Jean 20 Fern 21 Stucco 22 Uppas 23 Gail 25 Mow 26 Liza

DOWN: 2 Nadir 3 Only 4 Fleas 5 Ruth 6 Ensnare 7 Hilariously 8 Retractions 12 Solace 14 Ova 15 White 19 Chamber 20 Fog 24 Angst 25 Marc 26 Wasp 27 Foot

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

THE OTHER CHIC

The recent fashion collections offer fascinating new evidence for the theory that there is a correlation between the hemline and the economy.

In Robert Beckman's newly published book *The Downwave* (Milestone Publications £7.95), the economist elaborates on the idea that *louché* and provocative fashions (low necklines and thigh-high skirts) reflect expanding economies and that a downturn reduces this "erotic capital", sending hemlines modestly downwards and necklines to Puritan heights. The "hemline indicator" has been traced back over a span of 200 years.

But there is now no single fashion style. The wide divergence in skirt lengths between the different fashion capitals which I discussed last summer was even more marked for the autumn season. In particular, the French, to the surprise of the fashion world, almost unanimously dropped their hemlines to mid-calf. This fall (in contrast to the short, sexy clothes currently in the French shops) occurred in the same week that President Mitterrand was putting a metaphorical corset on the economy. The expansive socialist programme of spending was at an end and so was the short-lived mood for sexually titillating fashion.

Meanwhile, back in Britain, the London designers, equally unanimously, raised their hemlines. Economists can work out a suitable scenario for Britain's future performance...



"We are united by colour," says painter and weaver Kaffie Fassett of the two artist friends who share his exhibition opening in Covent Garden today.

Kaffie Fassett is best known for his knits - rainbows of colour that clothe the famous, like Laurence Bacall, Ali McGraw and John Schlesinger, and also inspire more earth-bound knitters to experiment with pattern and colour.

The magic carpet coats and jackets - all designed for both sexes - form the core of the selling exhibition, but Kaffie Fassett's rich patterns and colours are also on show in his paintings and needlepoint. Alongside are Richard Womersley's densely-textured rugs and blankets and luminous photographs by Steve Lovi, many of them still lifes of Kaffie's work.

The three artists work together and "spark each other off," says Fassett who came to London from Big Sur, California, in the 1960s. The exhibition has been mounted by Hugh Ehrman who has worked with Kaffie Fassett to produce tapestry kits and more recently knitting packs, both of which will be on sale to encourage the rest of us to emulate the artists. Kaffie Fassett, at Seven Dials Gallery, 56 Earlham Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E until April 23 (closed Sundays).

It started as a brief homage to Noel Coward. Now the selection of chic silk dressing gowns that Simpson, Piccadilly, put on sale beside a video recording of the recent television documentary, have proved a West End sell-out. Any man who fancies a slither of wrap-around silk or an elegant towelling robe (in a selection of fruit sorbet colours at £60) will find the ground floor of the store stamped with Coward's fashion trademark.

The simple, tailored dressing gown, so difficult to find in frillier female lingerie departments, is an all-British fashion story, and I suspect that many of Simpson's customers will consider it too good to be left to the men.

Imaginative cotton weaves, richly coloured wools, luxuriously decorated textiles and boldly patterned knits were all on display last week at Fabrice, the annual British fabric fair now in its fifth year.

New this season was a special stand devoted to the imaginative work of four young designers. All award winners in the Royal Society of Arts Design Business.

Julia Witton's collection of cotton weaves with a slightly worn effect was given the main award. The 23-year-old textile designer used particular inspiration as she followed the brief to create fabrics that could be made by a small production unit - such as she herself hopes to become when she leaves Brighton polytechnic this year.



Left: Sunshine separates. Silver grey linen sleeveless top £45, slim half-lined skirt £59. Also in peach, rose pink, pale blue and honey beige from Roland Klein, 26 Brook Street W1. Harvey Nichols and Ambers of Amersham. Skirt also Suzanne, Cobham. Earrings by Monty Don for Roland Klein. Silver, blue and black triple chain belt, £15, and metal twist bangles £4 each, by Sheila Teague from Detail, Endell Street, WC2; mail order from Sheila Teague, 45/46 Charlotte Road, EC2. White and black Chanel-style sling-backs £32 from Hobbs, 47 South Molton Street W1, 84 Kings Road SW3, 9 Hampstead High Street, NW3.

Above left: The basic suit. In grey and black stripe linen and silk mix with long collarless jacket and mid-calf button-through skirt (or alternative skirt to the knee). Price £169. Black and white spotted silk fly front top £59. All from Roland Klein Brook Street W1, Taylor and Hadow, Beauchamp Place SW3, Ambers, Amersham, Frazers, Glasgow. Silver and black anodised aluminium earrings £17.25 and twisted metal bangles, £4 each, by Sheila Teague from Detail, Endell Street WC2. Silver grey tights by Elbeco. Punched leather slip-ons by Urzule £18 in white, black, and red from Way in at Harrods, Harvey Nichols, Chelsea Cobbler, 54 King's Road SW3 and selected branches of Rayne.



Above right: Black and white graphic check tunic and black pants (or with alternative straight skirt) £149 from Roland Klein, 26 Brook Street, W1, Taylor and Hadow, Beauchamp Place, SW3, Ambers, Amersham, Frazers, Glasgow. Pearl and crystal necklace by Monty Don for Roland Klein. Sparkle bar brooch by Corocraft. Earrings by Butler and Wilson. Black satin evening shoes with bow ties £95 from Manolo Blahnik, 49/51 Old Church Street, London SW3.

Bucks. Striped silk and linen jacket as suit above. Black silk boater by Viv Knowland £49 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge. Black multi-chain belt and silvered earrings by Sheila Teague from Detail, Endell Street, WC2; mail order from 45/46 Charlotte Road, EC2. Bone tights by Elbeco. Spotted shoes with ankle ties by Camille Unglick from Rayne 66 New Bond Street, W1, Harrods, Harvey Nichols and selected branches of Rayne.

Hair by Clifford Brake for Michaeljohn. Make-up by Clifford Brake for Charles of the Ritz. Photographs by John Swanneil.



Roland Klein: a French background and a feel for fashion

Best shop assistant in town



Roland Klein plays with his collection like a child with a Rubik cube. Nimble fingers work skirts, suits, jackets, dresses in ever-changing combinations.

"Everything goes with anything," he says. "I work from piece to piece and from season to season to build up a wardrobe. It all follows on."

Almost every working day of the year, Roland Klein practices his skills at putting clothes together by serving in his small London shop, where uninitiated customers must think that they have stumbled by chance on the best sales assistant in town. He says that it is his way of going direct to his public where "they can see the way I am thinking and the way I like to work." He also, he admits, actually enjoys fitting clothes to customer and has a feel for fashion that may come partly from his native French background. It is also the fruit of years of quiet apprenticeship before he emerged ten years ago with his own label and more recently with his own shop.

"Being French, one has one's feet on the ground," he explains in his Gallic lilt untouched by years in England. "A French woman only buys a colour and a line that lasts from one season to the next. We are practical, careful about money. The French are a solid people."

Roland Klein also had a solid fashion training at a classic couture school in Paris, where the star pupil of the previous year was the young Yves Saint Laurent and his contemporaries were Jean-Louis Scherrer and Tan Giudicelli.

Klein went on to work in haute couture in the tailoring room at Dior and for three years at Jean Paulou, where he was assistant to Karl Lagerfeld. "He was wonderful to work with," says Klein. "He is a very nice person, and also an artist, interested in everything, mad about opera, music and painting. I learned a lot from him."

To understand Roland Klein's clothes, you must look neither for flamboyant statements of style, nor for the rather English decorations of sweet fills. I see in his harmony of line, cut and proportion an

elegance which springs from the couture training of 20 years ago. His new autumn collection, enthusiastically received a month ago, is based on just one simple theme - the blouson - and on a quiet colour palette of cream and grey. His current collection is played out in shades of grey, black and white, using stripes and spots as the only patterns, so that literally every item you see in the pictures slots in with something else, according to your own taste and style.

"My target customer is a business woman who works and travels, who has children and takes holidays," he explains. "She takes a lot of care choosing her clothes, but when she puts them on she forgets about them. I hate clothes that are fussy or don't hold together properly when you move or bend down."

His collection comes into that vanishing category of clothes that are properly made and finished in good fabrics, and in a price bracket that is halfway between high fashion and high street. The entire spring wardrobe photographed on this page adds up to just under £700, with the average outfit around £150 (or less if you choose the man-made alternatives to pure silk).

The clothes are made by his parent company, Marcel Fenez, whom he joined when the "swinging sixties" acted as a fashion magnet drawing him to London. It is just ten years since the company's founder, Marcel Fenez, had the foresight to give Roland Klein his own label, thus preventing the usual flight of a strong designer to set up on his own. The shop in Brook Street was opened two years ago as part of the process of bringing the designer out of the shadows.

Now the shop has some star-studded customers (including the Princess of Wales, although Klein is too discreet to mention her). But he has the same zeal to communicate his clothes to customers in the Roland Klein boutiques at Harrods and Harvey Nichols, where he personally trains the staff and explains the clothes to them.

I told Roland Klein that his seminars of style were too good to give away. So he has decided to combine his own plan of a customer show with a fashion workshop in which he will explain how his clothes work together. I said that I would challenge all my readers who doubt that modern fashion can ever be for them, to come and see him in action. The shows will be on Thursday

April 21 (details below) with myself in the role of introducer and observer. They will take place not in a grand hotel ballroom, but in the Marcel Fenez showroom, for Roland Klein's philosophy is that clothes are made to be worn, not for a fashion extravaganza.

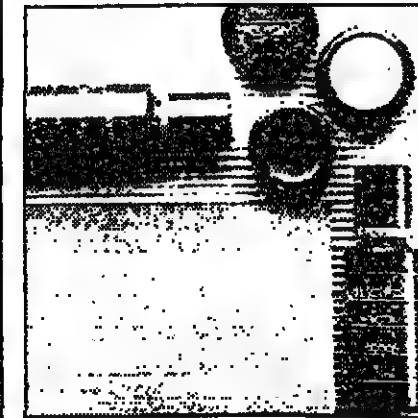
"I don't make clothes for the catwalk and I don't even think that they should be worn exactly as they are shown," he says. "I suppose that my ideal customer would be a career woman of some personality who puts her own stamp on my clothes." He himself personifies this quiet elegance with his neatly clipped moustache and well-brushed shoes at the extremities and a smart collar, pearl grey tie, simple black cotton sweater and Prince of Wales check trousers in between.

His Parisian contemporaries are now part of massive and money-spinning fashion empires with licensing arrangements round the world and their labels on everything from umbrellas to undergarments. By contrast, Roland Klein, although his clothes sell well throughout Britain and abroad, lives modestly. His elegant house in Kensington is decorated with the exquisite good taste that first brought him to the attention of Karl Lagerfeld. (Klein did the workroom decor for a party at Patou and was made design assistant on the strength of it.)

The home buyer at Harvey Nichols was so impressed by Klein's sense of style that she asked him to design a range of bed linen (including a chic striped dressing robe) that is now on sale nationwide. He is working on other design projects, and I would not underestimate the chances of this discreet Frenchman, still only 44, having his elegant signature on boxes of shoes (or even boxes of chocolates) before the eighties are much older.

Roland Klein fashion shows and style seminars on April 21 at 11.00 am and 3.00 pm at 26 Bruton Place, W1. Tickets £7.50 from 26, Brook Street, London W1.

Tomorrow:
Wednesday Page
Luring ways with
trout; Penny Perlick's
Connemara Diary



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THE TIMES DIARY

The Third Greene

Those who watched Graham Greene's *Jacuzzi* programme on BBC 2 over Easter may wonder at the way the writer has sought publicity in the case of the French mafia, when before he has shunned it. No one should be surprised though at his appetite for litigation. There was, for instance, a fierce row in 1960, when Greene's little-known brother Herbert raised a petition against the BBC's decision to end the nine o'clock radio news, an important feature of wartime life. The younger brother, Hugh Carleton Greene, had just become director-general of the BBC and Graham thought Herbert was trying to spoil things for Hugh. So he threatened to stop Herbert's allowance, a rather pitiful few shillings a week.

Herbert then presented the *Daily Mail* with a pile of Graham's boyhood diaries and letters, including a poem about how he disliked kissing his aunts. Graham was furious and got lawyers to squish the whole thing. Daniel Guy, whom Greene accused, has a tough adversary.

Turf accountant

Like Corbiere, Simon Cawkwell, an accountant and keen punter, is known to his friends as Corky. He also shares with the eight-year-old chestnut gelding the distinction of having won at Aintree on Saturday. Seven weeks ago he put £200 on the horse at 25 to one and then, having seen him run at Cheltenham, staked another £800. Cawkwell, £25,000 richer, tells me he thought his luck might be in when on the day before the National he saw a French coach in Hanover Square. It carried the name "Corbiere's Grand Raid."

Flying colours

The National Horseracing Museum find they have backed a useful couple of winners too. The museum's editor, Patricia Connor, and designer, Ivor Heal, have just carried off the European Exhibition of the Year award in Milan for their work on the Vikings in England exhibition, which was staged in Denmark in 1981 and York in 1982. Acquisitions for the museum, which the Queen opens at Newmarket on April 30, are still coming in. Among the latest are Fred Archer's travel bag and a pair of boots made for Lily Langtry, who was a regular at Newmarket.

● A Labour party worker in the Lliw valley near Swansea put the occupations of four councillors seeking re-election in the space provided on their nomination papers for their party membership. As a result of the mistake the poor fellows will now appear on the ballot papers as the Retired Party.

Nuclear threshold

The Royal Institute of British Architects is to stage a formal debate tonight on the motion: "This house believes nuclear shelters to be a prudent precaution." I never thought it was an architect's function to advise a client as to whether he really needed whatever folly he was minded to build. The architect's job, surely, is to make it look good - especially if the building is likely to be the final monument to civilization as we know it.

Unfair dinkum

Spare a thought for Patrick Catling, author of *The Experiment*. In Australia recently for the *National Geographic Magazine* and the *Daily Telegraph*, he was exploring the outback when a dingy bit him in the behind, leaving a 10-inch scar. Catling is now back home in Co Cork, nursing himself with liberal doses of Irish whiskey.

● Among items on display in the Indian handicrafts shop of the Metropolitan Hotel, Dubai, is a piece labelled "solid coconut hand carved bowl". I am assured it does not come from the bottom end of the range.

Tropical crush

Mrs PHS is newly returned from Barbados, where she has been refurbishing her golden suntan in preparation for the launch this month of a book she has written. She stayed, grandly enough, one would have thought, at Clitiver Bay, Bisterly by Rene Lecler in his *The 300 Best Hotels in the World*.

Imagine her surprise, then, to discover that the carpet in her room was inhabited by worms - an inch or more long, black, thin, and rather easy to crush. The worms, she was told, are harmless and known as Christmas worms because their incursions are worst in the festive season.

Not keen on worms, even in the garden, my dear wife thought she might seek shelter at Sandridge, a hotel recommended on the BBC. "We have absolutely no worms," the manager assured her. "Our problem is crabs."

The Dangerous Sports Club's ski race down the Black Slalom course at St Moritz is safely over. Tommy Leigh-Pemberton, son of the governor-designate of the Bank of England, completed the course in a super-market trolley on skis. Mike Boyd-Mansell survived a ski jump on a deck chair - though the canvas did not. Xan Rufus-Isaacs took the prize for most unusual descent - astride an inflatable doll on a sofa. A grand piano completed the course, upside down, but none matched the turn of speed shown by a kitchen chair, which completed the 500-metre run in 23 seconds.

PHS

Lebanon: Robert Fisk reports on the chilling parallels with Vietnam

When will the Israelis go?

Beirut
The Israeli soldiers were sitting in their company headquarters just off the Damascus Road, some leaning on chairs, others lounging across military issue beds. The faded cream walls were covered in the sort of obscene graffiti with which all armies embellish their front line positions. A kerosene heater sputtered away on the floor. Some of the soldiers were tired; all held opinions about the Lebanon war.

"Do you realize," a middle-aged medical orderly said, "that if we leave this part of Lebanon, chaos will follow. Of course we want President Gemayel to take control of Lebanon but he can't do it at the moment. He probably doesn't control more than two houses. And we know that multinational forces can't do the job." There was a ripple of unkind laughter around the room.

But was it worth it? Was it worth so many thousands of civilian deaths? It was worth more than 450 Israeli deaths - to come here to this dirty, half-ruined building on a Lebanese mountainside and sit here night after night, surrounded by real or potential enemies?

A soldier by the door spoke first. "Galilee was under constant attack," he said. "Our civilians were dying there and they lived in this tension day after day. We couldn't let that go on year after year. No one could. What could we do?" But why, then, did the Israelis go as far north as Beirut?

Two soldiers believed that Ariel Sharon, then Israeli Defence Minister, should have pushed on into west Beirut in the first week of the war. Another thought the Israeli army should have stopped at the Awali River, just north of Sidon. There were serious doubts. "There was a point," said a young reservist, "when we started asking 'How far north? To Tripoli? To Amman? Where are we going?' But we had to get the PLO out of Beirut."

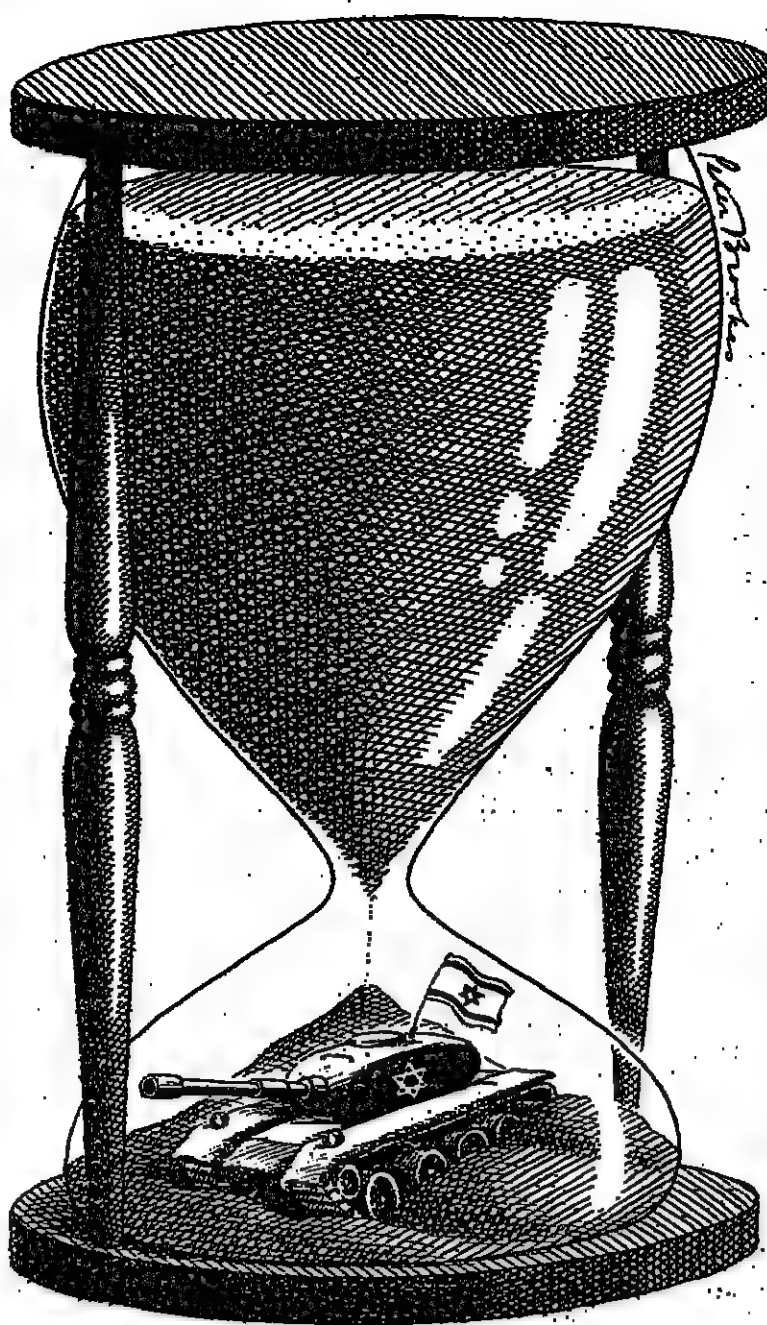
The soldier by the door wanted to know why "our friend" America had turned against Israel. The doctor growled one word: "Weinberger."

Someone talked about destroying the PLO, but another, more reticent soldier interrupted him. "The word should be 'pressure' not 'destroy'," he said. "The problem is not the Palestinians or the Israelis - but their leaders. There is only one way to stop the PLO doing these terror things - by making friends with the Palestinians."

In the whole company headquarters, only two of the soldiers belonged to the Peace Now movement, and the Israeli army is not about to walk out of Lebanon in protest against a futile war that has gone terribly wrong. But the odds are stacking up against Israeli soldiers here, and there are increasing signs that they know it.

Sometimes it is an image that provides the evidence: the convoys of Israeli buses driving fast up the main highways, the soldiers poking their rifle barrels, porcupine fashion, through the windows in preparation for an ambush, the trucks at both ends draped with machine guns and belted ammunition - or the young soldier whom we found last week in the spring sunshine of the Bekaa Valley, watching a convoy recede into the distance.

"My Jeep broke down," he told us as he stood, rifle at the ready, on the



lonely roadside. "Who are you? Where are you from?" This was no victorious soldier on conquered land but a nervous, frightened lad, far from home and safety, amid the blood-red poppy fields of the Bekaa.

The casualty figures are even less comforting for the Israelis. Of the 462 Israeli soldiers killed since the invasion last year, 113 of them have died since September, when the war was supposed to have ended. The comparable figures for the wounded are 361 out of 2,489.

Palestinian and Lebanese guerrilla attacks in southern and central Lebanon are again increasing. Only last week, Finnish and Irish troops of the United Nations force in the south discovered two new arm caches containing grenades, ammunition, two mortars and a freshly-painted canister of explosives. The army of guerrillas - the "terrorists" in Israeli terminology - have not been beaten after all.

The Israelis know it. Around the highway to Damascus, in the mountains of the Chouf, in much of southern Lebanon, Israel does not even control the countryside. Her troops maintain only a tenuous grip over the main roads. Despite the

army's much-publicized ability to withstand the effects of the Lebanese winter, the tracks of its Merkava and Centurion tanks are showing serious metal fatigue problems.

Strategically, the Israelis' front line is a nonsense. Since the Sabra and Chatila massacres, the Israeli army has tried hard to dissociate itself from the Phalangists whom it once proclaimed as loyal allies, but Brigadier General Amnon Likhin's 162nd Division has been left holding the road bridgehead around Beirut, the supply route which Sharon forged to the Phalange but which is now little more than a military embarrassment. Likhin has withdrawn his armour from Beit Mary to the north and would like to pull back to Damour, south of the capital.

The Israeli army's press spokesmen - still espoused in the villa of a Saudi princess outside Beirut - are now producing broadsheets containing highly selective quotations from the report of the Kahan commission into the massacres, each designed to show that the Phalange should bear responsibility. But the same press office is still putting out the inaccurate and underestimated civ-

ilian casualty figures of last summer and its words lack credibility even with Israeli soldiers themselves.

Back in the early 1970s the same thing happened in Northern Ireland: British officers simply no longer believed what their own publicity machine was saying. In Lebanon, Israeli officers are generally honest about these things, admitting that last year's casualties were far higher than claimed, that the Israeli army was responsible for sending the Phalange into the camps.

Israel's stated military aims in Lebanon have also grown confused. When her army invaded last June, it was allegedly sent into battle to ensure the security of Galilee and push the Palestinian guerrillas 25 miles to the north. But when the Israelis reached Beirut, the emphasis changed: now they were going to free Lebanon from "terrorism" and hand back Lebanon's sovereignty to a legally elected president. But after Bashir Gemayel's assassination and the horror of the massacres the policy shifted again.

There were gun battles between Maronite Phalangists and Druze in the Israeli-occupied Chouf mountains - with guns supplied by the Israelis - but Israeli spokesmen then virtually washed their hands of the affair. The Israelis tried to arrange ceasefires, but, they said, the Maronite-Druze fighting involved old prejudices and had been going on for more than a century. The Lebanese, particularly the Druze, could not accept this. Was not antisemitism also an ancient prejudice? Why could Israel not take the same view here?

In the Bekaa, the Israelis are now facing a long war of attrition with the Syrians. In the south of Lebanon, Colonel Haim of Israeli army intelligence - together with an Israeli officer who uses the name Abu Noah, have now persuaded several village leaders to pay taxes for militias loyal to Israel. The Israeli army has started calling these militias by the anodyne title of the Territorial Brigades: their artificially created village committees have been graced with the democratic name of the United South Assembly.

Dany Chamoun, the son of the right-wing former president, has been down in Marjayoun paying court to Israel's ally, Major Saad Haddad. There is an alliance in the making here, for with Haddad's militia and Chamoun's political rehabilitation in Beirut, the Phalange could lose its control of the presidency now held by Amin Gemayel. And the Israelis are fast losing patience with Gemayel's intransigence.

But Lebanon is not a client state. It is a quagmire which the Israeli government is still reluctant to leave. Israel's new fortifications in the Bekaa suggest a prolonged stay, for years rather than months, and the possible partition of Lebanon. Mr Begin, who knows his Bible, is apparently not daunted by the Old Testament warnings to those who involve themselves in the violence of Lebanon.

However, there are Israeli soldiers who now suspect that their country is on the brink of a tragedy here. Lebanon is not another Vietnam but there are chilling parallels for the army which fought its way so eagerly up the road to Beirut last summer.

Geoffrey Smith

Why June looks the best bet

One of the principal arguments used against a June election is that it would not be fitting for Mrs Thatcher as the Prime Minister of the resolute approach to go to the country a year before she has to. Would it not undermine her reputation, it is asked, as the leader who sees things through?

But there is now a new factor in the minds of her advisers. The opinion research conducted for the Conservatives through group discussions with representative samples has been disclosing a belief that it would be appropriate for Mrs Thatcher to call an election whenever she believes that she can win it. This finding has still to be tested by the quantitative methods of ordinary opinion polling. But it is already being taken seriously by those close to her. If it is corroborated, the satisfaction of the Conservative leadership it would mean that the Prime Minister need no longer be deterred from a June election by the fear that it would be regarded as premature. It would be surprising if this consideration did not enter her calculations. It should also affect the thinking of those who are wondering not just when the election is likely to be held, but when it ought to be.

There is a school of thought that it is in the national interest for Parliament to run their full five years. When prime ministers go to the country sooner than they have to, without an absolutely compelling reason, they encourage the development of election fever earlier and earlier in a Parliament's life - which means that more and more of the business of government has to be conducted in the shadow of the hustings.

But I do not believe the matter is as simple as that in a country without fixed Parliaments. In Britain there quite often comes a point before a Parliament has run its full statutory course when there is a general sense that it is time for an election. When such a moment comes it is usually in the national interest for the election to be held.

The Conservatives' private research confirms our indications that the country is ready for an election. It would not have been in the national interest to have called it before now. To have held an election in the immediate aftermath of the Falklands victory would have been monstrous, turning a national triumph into a partisan issue. To have held one earlier this year because of the run on sterling would not have been outrageous, but it would have been unwise because it was unnecessary.

Sterling's troubles were not caused simply by investors' fears of a Labour government. In any case, it is by no means clear that the fall that has taken place in the exchange rate has been bad for the economy.

But now everyone is waiting for the election. This is particularly evident in Parliament, where some-

thing of an end-of-term atmosphere had developed even before the Easter recess. Nor has this been confined to Conservative MPs, eager to take advantage of their party's lead in the opinion polls.

With the exception of the Telecommunications there is no legislation of much consequence now on its way to the statute book. Everything else that matters is awaiting the outcome of the election. Such a period of suspended animation could be prolonged under a government that saw its function as being to offer the country simply the virtues of calm and tranquil management. But the present government, which believes in radical change, would be denying its very purpose. If it allowed the waiting period to be extended for long.

That is a general consideration. But there is also a particular one of much greater importance. It has often been suggested that the Conservatives would suffer electorally if the voters were going to the polls in October just as the controversy over cruise missiles was coming to a head, with the Nato deadline of the end of the year looming close. Better either to get it out of the way in June or, best of all, to wait until next year when the cruise issue would have been settled one way or the other.

I have never been convinced that the Conservatives would be bound to suffer if the election coincided with the climax of the Geneva negotiations. But I do believe that the western position in the negotiations would be weakened if the critical stage was conducted against the background of a British election campaign.

The outcome of the West German elections last month undoubtedly strengthened the hand of the western negotiators. It removed the possibility of a government being elected that would refuse to have the missiles anyway. So long as such a possibility existed there was not much incentive for the Soviet negotiators to make concessions at Geneva. They might equally feel that there is no reason for them to give anything away so long as there is the possibility of such a government being elected in Britain. This means not only that it would be desirable to avoid an October election, but also that it would be no good waiting until next year. To do so would save the Conservatives the possible embarrassment of conducting an election campaign against a crescendo of anti-nuclear protest. But even if it suited the party strategists to wait that long, it would leave an element of political uncertainty in Britain which could have damaging consequences in Geneva.

The best way of strengthening the western position there, which is of critical national interest for Britain, would be to settle in June who will be governing this country for the next five years.

Roger Scruton

Behind the mask of 'authenticity'

During the 1960s adolescents were taught to be "authentic". Authenticity was sold in many forms, from oriental religion to urban terrorism; but there was a common emphasis on salvation through astonishing behaviour. To be authentic was to release your "inner" freedom; it was to exist nakedly in a world of stifled shirts. What a release! And, in retrospect, how misguided.

The contempt for ordinary decency which comes over adolescents when they must leave the security of the home is a kind of fear: fear of responsibility, of work, of the sacrifices required to ensure the survival of the species. In the face of such commitments, there is comfort in a philosophy which requires us to be committed to nothing. Except that it seems like a cheat. Or at least, it seemed like a cheat until Sartre showed that really "commitment" and "authenticity" are one and the same.

Commitment, he told us, means commitment to the self, to its freedom, to its existential choice. True morality, therefore does not condemn the authenticity of the outsider. On the contrary, authenticity is the necessary and sufficient condition for a state of moral grace.

Once this rhetorical trick had been discovered, it became possible to make a handsome living by purveying it. The new existentialist guru - exemplified in the personality of R. D. Laing - could advance to positions of influence comparable to those occupied by the great preachers of the seventeenth century. He could become a psychotherapist, an entertainer, a spiritual leader. He could avail himself of all the resources of the media in order to spread his gospel, and the more fervently he emphasized its youthful quality, the less attention did his audience pay to the empty nihilism of its meaning.

Authentic behaviour, however, because it is purposefully designed to offend, soon offends the agent. He can feel no great satisfaction in being original about nothing, and therefore begins to feel towards himself the kind of suspicion that he feels towards the rival authenticities of others. Authenticity gives way to cynicism, to a refusal to believe, either in the old values of society or in the new values of the self.

This whole process of moral disorientation depends upon an error of judgment: a person is imagined to have a "real" self hidden behind the masks of social intercourse. By tearing away the masks, it is supposed, you reveal the finer man. But what if there is nothing behind those masks? If they are all there is,

any attempt wholly to discard them is an attempt to rid oneself of one's own existence. It is not surprising, therefore, if the legacy of authenticity is nothingness.

As the young were being exhorted to "commitment", another "authenticity" was being marketed, in the name of scholarship, discipline, and reverence for the past. The principal entrepreneurs were not forward-looking gurus but impersonal corporations, such as Deutsche Grammophon, whose in many ways magnificent "archive" series began to introduce the world to the idea of "authentic" musical performance.

Soon musicians everywhere were searching for the "correct" instruments upon which to imitate the manners of another age. Violins lost their vibrato; flutes were replaced by recorders; pianos by fortepianos and harpsichords; cellos by violas, horns by their valisee ancestors.

Much dead sentiment was pruned away. But much live feeling was lost along with it. Authenticity came over Bach and Purcell like the kiss of death. Only the most accomplished musician can translate himself into the manners of another age without leaving behind him his full artistic sensibility.

Each addition to the repertoire of musical performance changes the character of what has gone before. We do not hear the harpsichord as Bach heard it. We hear it as "other than the piano". And the piano - which created modern music - dominates our understanding of the keyboard. Keyboard pieces which sound ill on the piano can establish only an imperfect claim to our attention.

Were Bach still with us he would, I am sure, insist on authentic performance. He would know that music exists in the ear of the listener, and that the post-Romantic ear is the product of a complex musical history. Creative inauthenticity enables Bach, Brahms and Mahler to belong together, so restoring the vital continuity without which the past is an empty husk.

The two cults of authenticity seem like opposites. But they are in one sense the same. Each requires us to believe in a reality behind appearance - a real self, or a real Bach - which exists behind our spontaneous social performance. And each fails to see that true freedom requires us to surrender ourselves to social conditions, to give up the illusion that, by struggling against them, we are purer and hotter than our times.

The author is Editor of The Salisbury Review.



The Soar in Nottinghamshire: riverbank greenery or more wheat prairies?

Draining more cash for the farmers

£150m a year - money often spent drastically altering rivers and wet meadows in the name of agricultural production.

The Soar is a classic, and typical, case. In exchange for spending £6.4m of taxpayer's money, about 6,750 acres of meadow will be made less vulnerable to winter flooding. Some villages will receive improved flood protection - which could be provided independently for a few hundred thousand pounds - and motorists on some roads will be spared some winter inconvenience. At least one of the roads is likely to be bypassed in any case.

But it is farm production which is supposed to be the great beneficiary of the scheme. Milk production is expected to rise a little. Beef and lamb production will fall somewhat. Oil seed rape production will rise tenfold, to 335 tonnes. The production of wheat will increase more than threefold to 5,340 tonnes. Much of it on land never before ploughed. Overall, according to Dr John Bowers, a Leeds University

economist and an expert in cost benefit assessment, the scheme "represents an opportunity for farmers to switch from a heavily subsidized form of production to an even more heavily subsidized form of production".

Britain cannot find a use for much of the milk and wheat it now produces - it usually goes into storage, eventually to be sold cheaply abroad. But, under the common agricultural policy of the EEC, which guarantees to buy any amount that the farmer produces at a fixed high price, there is every incentive to promote production.

Lord Beaumont would argue that there are three important defects in the case which the Ministry of Agriculture asks to be made before it subsidizes a river or drainage scheme (usually to about 35 per cent, with the rest coming from ratepayers):

● The whole of the (private) benefit to the farmer is counted as a (public) benefit from the scheme: no account is taken of the 40 or 50 per

cent of the "profit" which the public pays in support prices and subsidy.

● The "discount rate" is set at 5 per cent: it should be at least 7 and probably 10 per cent if it is to provide anything like a decent assessment of profitability.

● No account is taken of the wastefulness of producing commodities for which there is no demand.

The issue has arisen so publicly because a private Bill was required for any action affecting the river: it is preserving ancient navigation rights that has made the scheme so expensive and brought it under parliamentary scrutiny. Because the Nature Conservancy Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds were given conservation concessions in some places, and because they knew that the immediate work to the river bank would be done sensitively, they allowed the Bill to go forward unopposed.

It fell to the Council for the Protection of Rural England to stress the landscape loss. And tomorrow it will fall to the Lords. They have a rare opportunity to instruct a committee to scrutinize at least some of the figures the sensitive water authorities work on as they use public money to promote private benefit.

Richard North



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FILLING THE SCHOOL VOID

When, according to legend, Churchill offered R. A. Butler the Board of Education in 1941, the old warrior was taken aback by his remark. "Typical of you, Rab," Churchill said. "I only offered it as an insult." That remark reflects an enduring disposition on the part of some Conservatives: from ignorance or disdain stems a cavalier attitude towards state schooling which diminishes the chance in life of the bulk of their fellow citizens. There is another tradition within the party. It is the legacy of the three Bs: Balfour, Butler, and Boyle. The first B, allied with a crusading official, Sir Robert Morant, founded a national system of public education. The second produced the grand scheme of the 1944 Education Act. Boyle tried to marry the Conservatives' concern with academic standards with the spirit of an age demanding wider opportunities. There is a tradition of publicly-provided schools intended not to upset the social structure but to set a ladder before ability.

Forty years after Butler's statute is a good time to ask which tradition prevails inside Mrs Margaret Thatcher's party. The drafts of election manifestos are being sketched; and Mr David Hancock, Mrs Thatcher's personal choice for Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, is completing his preparatory reading. But on policy towards the state's schools there is a void. The tribal cry of "standards" and an ill-thought out scheme for vouchers (however well intentioned its authors' efforts to mobilize parents in the cause of superior schooling) will not substitute for the feat of public administration and quality control necessary to produce a system of schools worthy of a nation fighting industrial decline.

Yet despite the huge national investment, consumer dissatisfaction is rife. The discontent comes from middle-class parents whose children are contemporary victims of social engineering in the cause of "equality". In

retrospect, how astounding is the venom with which intellectually sophisticated Labour leaders in the 1960s set out to dismantle Butler's scheme. In her memoir Mrs Susan Crosland recalls her husband coming home to vow the destruction of every grammar school in the country; what list of all the ills confronting Britain in 1965 could possibly have included the grammar schools?

That atavistic attitude towards achievement still permeates the educational pile bequeathed by Mr Crosland. Working-class parents rail against the schools, too, for in the recession they put an enormous premium on formal skills and paper qualifications rejected by some teachers as "divisive". Much anger is directed at a middle-class group, the National Union of Teachers, for its flabby jargon. To some lower income families it seems as if middle-class teachers and education bureaucrats have decided the working class shall no longer have education.

The last thing parents, teachers and above all children need is another period of structural realignment and disturbance according to some central formula. This is willy-nilly a time of change as school populations fall. Even those local authorities most ham-strung by their teacher syndicalists are forced to close schools and redeploy staff. It is a time for modest prescription from the government. Money matters: well-built and properly equipped schools are valuable. But more important is the quality of the teacher. A gifted teacher - gifted in a sense wider than the possession of reasonable academic qualification - can work minor miracles with a big class crammed into a Nissen hut with a blackboard and chalk.

Building on Sir Keith Joseph's recent white paper on teacher education, a reform plan would stiffen the rules on the passage of probationer teachers into the profession. Beyond that teachers' progression up their salary scales would be much more tightly bound than at present to their

performance. Good teachers, like good institutions, shine: the light is visible to parents. Her Majesty's Inspectors, head teachers, school managers. It should not be administratively impossible to marry such judgements with the apparatus of pay and conditions of service. A reform plan would "back winners" - identify and encourage schools which work - and ask why the country's further education colleges have a record and esteem far above many schools' it would blur the school-leaving boundary at age 16. It would stream children according to aptitude. It would bring the Manpower Services Commission and practical skills training into the heart of the schools.

An optimistic analysis might suggest that the road back to educational common sense began with Mr James Callaghan's "great debate" in 1977 - an initiative on school curriculum and the power of inspectors that, typically, was derided by education professionals. Mrs Thatcher has the experience of her own ministerial tenure at education to draw upon: she might usefully re-read the programme and analysis review which was fed into her 1972 White Paper, *A Framework for Expansion*. Ten years on, she would add several paragraphs on the schools' place in preparation for economic life - and if Mr Hancock cannot write them for her, Mr Geoffrey Holland at the MSC would do an excellent draft.

One of Britain's most damaging characteristics has been loyalty to past mistakes. The past two decades of educational policy-making should not be deluged: there is now in the public education system more than adequate material - human and physical - for the schools to rise again. Several recent generations of school children have been tainted by an anti-achievement ethos and the low calibre of some of their teachers. Mrs Thatcher's manifesto carries an obligation that successor generations of children in the state's schools do better.

THE PRICE OF SELF-DECEPTION

It is no good the Arab world in general, and the Palestinian community in particular, sitting back and blaming President Reagan for a situation in which extremist Palestinians murder their moderate compatriot for being prepared to talk to Israelis. The fact that the PLO has been able to prevent King Hussein taking part in the follow up to the Reagan plan may be mostly attributable to a lack of confidence among Arabs that the United States can deliver Israel to a successful negotiation. However, it is said that the Arabs, and particularly the Palestinians, seem to have become so seduced by the idea that their predicament is all the fault of the United States that they unfavourably exonerate themselves from blame for a situation which can only deteriorate while they indulge either in fratricidal behaviour or chronic indecision.

One of the main reasons for this indecision, of course, is that those branches of the PLO which exist in exile have more temptation - even after the dispersal from Beirut - to remain as privileged exiles, disposing of vast sums of Saudi-inspired patronage, than to get down to the serious business of negotiating a more modest style of life on the West Bank or in the Gaza Strip. West Bank opinion happens to be divided between those

who would support King Hussein's return to some representative position over them, or at least to a negotiation on their behalf, and those who persist in supporting the leadership of Mr Arafat and the PLO. The latter do so in spite of every indication, year after year, that the PLO has been able to do nothing for them, and will now be able to do even less. The PLO may be able to luxuriate in its well-endowed exile, but it does so at the expense of those Palestinians who live under Israeli rule, and would rather not do so.

King Hussein stood little enough chance of rescuing any of the West Bank from Israeli rule in a negotiation; the PLO position stands none at all. It is only too evident from yesterday's announcement that a further 57 Israeli settlements are planned for the West Bank. Moreover such an announcement is hardly surprising. The Israeli attitude to West Bank settlements is to create a dynamic situation which either fulfils Mr Begin's dream of a Jewish State reunited with pre-1967 Israel, or puts enough pressure on the Arabs to induce them to recognize Israel and to start negotiating about the occupied territories before it is too late because there is no territory left to negotiate about.

It is Mr Begin's intention to create such a web of settlements that the kind of autonomy which he is committed to discuss in the next phase of the Camp David process would already be too modest an animal to cause him any demographic, political or military anxieties, while the West Bank remained under Israeli control. His ambitions would certainly not have been deterred by the behaviour of Jordan and the Palestinians since the announcement of the Reagan plan. On the contrary, the Arab indecision can only have helped Mr Begin. So can the Sartawi murder, since it shows that the Palestinian movement seems only able to resolve internal disagreements with murder, as is also the case in Lebanon. In the circumstances, who can be entirely surprised at the policy of fortification in Lebanon which is being pursued by the Israelis, as described by our Middle East correspondent on another page? It is symbolic of the Palestinian exile's unwillingness to accept this hard reality on the ground that Mr Arafat, when confronted with the murder of his colleague by fellow Palestinians, was immediately inspired to blame the Israelis. He was speaking, of course, to a Yemeni audience. He deceived them, as he has for years, deceived himself.

AN ARBITRARY WAY WITH GRANTS

Citizens advice bureaux sprang into being immediately on the outbreak of war in September 1939. They were the product of voluntary planning under the aegis of the National Council for Social Service. They worked closely with government departments and local authorities, which came to rely on them as an important channel of communication with members of the public. They were soon in receipt of grants from public funds in recognition of their value.

The organization was started to help less competent citizens thread their way through the regulations, restrictions and obligations of the bureaucratic society necessarily introduced by total war. After 37 years of peace the bureaucratic tide has not receded, nor civic competence become general, so far as to remove the need for the service. There is a strong demand for what the bureaux provide, as places of explanation, dispensation of first instance, as referral agencies - especially, though by no means only, where immigrants are concentrated. By filtering problems and resolving some before they become magnified, the advice bureaux relieve very many worries and

promote economy in the expenditure of administrative and legal resources.

The present government in its early days doubled its grant to the bureaux to £3 million a year to compensate for withdrawal of support for local authorities' consumer advice centres. The grant has now crept up to £6 million, and it is this sum that Dr Gerard Vaughan, the present Minister for consumer affairs at the Department of Trade, threatens to withhold in part if the organization does not put its house in order.

Dr Vaughan has not made clear either to the advice bureaux or to the public at large what it is that he expects them to do. Dr Vaughan sits for Reading. The full-time director of the citizens advice bureau there is (or was) Mrs Joan Ruddock. Mrs Ruddock is chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Dr Vaughan's colleague Mr Heseltine is locked in argumentative combat with CND. Dr Vaughan had had complaints from constituents that Mrs Ruddock was misusing her position in the citizens advice organization to further the cause of unilateralism. The allegation has not been sustained, and Dr Vaughan does not now use Mrs

Ruddock and CND as an explanation of his dissatisfaction with the advice bureaux.

He speaks of inefficiency on the part of the national association in the use of its resources, though the officers of the association say they have received no complaints from him on that score or special requests for information. Other criticisms mentioned are that there is overlapping with other centres of advice, and that the nature of the advice or the activities of the bureaux have become too political.

That there are instances to give rise to such criticism is quite likely. That they are widespread or systematic would surprise those who have watched or have dealings with the citizens advice bureaux. To use these complaints as a basis from which to threaten financial sanctions, before the complaints have been squarely put to the organization itself and without their having been examined impartially in relation to the work of the organization as a whole, is an arbitrary exercise of power. It is all the more objectionable in dealing with an organization that has a long record of proven usefulness to millions of anxious people.

Inequality over war graves

From A. W. G. Wakefield
Sir, It is with mixed feelings that I read and hear of the visit of relatives to the war graves in the Falklands.

Two years ago my wife and I visited the grave of my brother at Kanchanaburi, in Thailand. He died on the Burma Railway in 1943.

This year we managed to reach the War Graves Cemetery at Thanbyuzaay in Burma, where my wife's twin brother lies buried. He also died on the railway in 1943.

We have waited 40 years to do this and no doubt there are many who would dearly like to visit loved ones who lie in far-off places, but find the cost prohibitive.

I wrote to the Ministry of Defence, suggesting that help towards costs might be given, but the reply was that no funds exist for this purpose.

Hence my mixed feelings on the Falklands visit and on the publicity being given to it. It is most likely that others feel the same.

Incidentally I would advise against visiting Thanbyuzaay until a proposed hotel is built in Moulmein in two or three years' time.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. G. WAKEFIELD,
48 Holden Way,
Upminster,
Essex.
April 7.

From Mrs C. Kirk
Sir, I am very glad Falklands widows are enabled to visit their war graves.

But what about surviving widows of the Second World War and even the First? We were never offered any such facility, nor hand-outs from any fund such as the South Atlantic.

Many of us have never been able to afford to visit our husbands' graves. Though apparently much increased, the actual purchasing power of our pensions remains much as it minimally was in 1944-45.

Can you persuade the powers that be that we, too, should have the chance of such a visit made for us? Yours truly,
CORALIE KIRK,
13 1/2 Arundel Road,
Dorking, Surrey.

Irish compromise

From Dr Desmond Keenan
Sir, It has been asserted (letter, March 30) that the British Government once believed in a united Ireland. Surely this is going beyond the evidence. Asquith or Lloyd George may have expressed general hopes with regard to Ireland's future prosperity. This does not mean that they believed it would come about, or come from Irish unity, or that Irish unity, as opposed to Irish harmony, was desirable. Still less does it mean that they believed that any action of his Majesty's Government would bring unity about.

This year marks the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the first attempt by the southern nationalist Catholics to persuade the northern Protestants to join a separate Parliament in Dublin. On January 18, 1833, a meeting was held in the Royal Hotel, College Green, Dublin. The Protestant leaders simply ignored the meeting.

Ulster Protestants, then as now, had not the slightest intention of subjecting themselves to a "Popish" Parliament in Dublin. They wanted them, as they want now, to effectively uphold "natural Christianity" in Ireland as far as was possible. They fiercely opposed the Whig Government of the day, as they opposed the Liberal Government in 1912, as they opposed the Government in 1974.

When it comes to a challenge to their basic beliefs and aspirations no British government has any control over them. Nor does any civilized government nowadays wish to challenge them on such points.

The way forward in Ireland can only be through mutual tolerance and understanding. So, for a beginning, Catholic nationalists must jettison entirely their propaganda version of Irish history, cease to blame everything on England and the supporters of the English, accept responsibility for the consequences of mistakes, to use no stronger word, made by their side in the past, cease to regard themselves as the only aggrieved party, try to recognize the values which the Ulster Protestants defend so staunchly.

If they recognize their own sins and excesses then, perhaps, the Ulster Protestants may be induced to recognize theirs. Then, and only then, will there be any realistic prospect of a united Ireland.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
DESMOND KEENAN,
(An Ulster Catholic),
129 Bluebird Walk,
Chalkhill Road,
Wembley Park,
Middlesex.
March 30.

Design education

From Professor A. Kenaway
Sir, Technical education has traditionally concerned itself with analytical studies in science and applied mechanics both at school and at university. The process has allowed those schoolchildren who take easily to abstraction to graduate. Few will argue that this process alone turns out real engineers, architects or designers.

The advantage of projects which require students to design, make and test some real thing is that they can see how to use their analytical skills, bring them together with other concepts such as costs, the market requirements, production methods and aesthetics and ergonomics.

For several years this college has

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vital principles involved in Police Bill

From Dr Richard Fox
Sir, The likely implications of current legislation can be seen from experience in the United States, where I worked for several years after a lifetime in the National Health Service. Each psychiatric facility incurs much expense employing whole-time administrators to scrutinize medical records for material which might be actionable with the result that pertinent information, which could be crucial to the patient's best interests in the future, tends to get left out.

I have encountered one hospital which kept two sets of case records, one lot in which the doctors could write freely, and the other lot for the scrutiny of the innumerable organizations which had access to them. There is a positive spin-off in that United States case notes are more legible, coherent and signed. One recognized how appallingly bad NHS notes usually are.

One's responsibility to one's patient, when balanced with that to society at large, is obviously delicate. I have always helped the police with their inquiries within the limits of ethical secrecy. My constabulary colleagues recognized my limits, as I recognized theirs, and I believe our collaboration over many years was to the greater benefit of the body politic.

This has helped me, I believe, to rehabilitate a great many people on transfer from prisons and special hospitals such as Broadmoor and probably prevented some from going there in the first place. Distressed refugees from the IRA movement, to take an extreme case, would hardly seek help from any persons where the term "confidential" did not mean just that. The Samaritans, I suspect, is but one of the number of organizations which will just stop keeping records.

If any state official seeks to plunder my medical records, under whatever Act, then book me a cell in the Scrubs. This I will hope to share with colleagues from among the theological, social work, medical and many other groups.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FOX,
Consultant Psychiatrist,
Brighton Health Authority,
The Lady Chichester Hospital,
Aldington House,
New Church Road,
Hove,
Sussex.

From Sir David Napley

Sir, Professor Mason asserts (April 9) that it would be retrograde if, due to courtesy and lack of parliamentary time, clause 6 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was lost, since it would introduce rules requiring the defence to disclose the nature of its expert evidence in criminal trials. In fact, the loss of

Right wing analogies

From Professor Paul Wilkinson
Sir, Dr Roger Scruton ("Benn, really just another Benito", April 3) sadly adds nothing but further abuse and confusion to the recent debate in your columns on the meaning of the term "fascism". Of course it was ridiculous of Mr Benn and Mr Healey to label Mrs Thatcher as a "fascist": every informed political observer knows that the Prime Minister's political philosophy of Victorian liberal individualism is light years away from the totalitarian concept of the fascist state. But it is equally silly to pretend that the term can be properly applied to the ideas of Mr Benn, an egalitarian socialist deeply attached to the principles of parliamentary democracy.

As your previous correspondents have pointed out, cheap personal attacks of this kind simply trivialise fascism and show a total insensitivity to the sufferings of those who experienced the terror and brutality of real fascist movements and regimes at first hand. It is saddening to reflect that Dr Scruton has been a teacher of philosophy: one would have hoped that a person with his gifts would have shown a greater respect for clarity and honesty in the use of language.

Dr Scruton's central thesis that

fascism is a relatively harmless form of authoritarianism which has "very little in common" with Hitler will not bear close examination. Dr Scruton writes as if the Rome-Berlin Axis and the Second World War had never happened.

Does he not realise that in the 1930s Mussolini enacted Hitler's race laws in Italy and that by the 1940s his regime was a mere satellite of Nazi Germany? Is he unaware that fascism was in any case a Europe-wide movement and that in one occupied country after another fascist movements enthusiastically collaborated with the Nazi conquerors in their policies of genocide, massacre and terror?

Would he be surprised to learn that in a study of present-day fascist movements in over 20 countries I found their leaders in almost every case identified Hitler's Nazi regime as the heroic zenith of fascism which they yearn to restore?

Had Dr Scruton been in possession of the basic facts about the recent history of fascism I feel sure he would not have been able to write in the way he did.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL WILKINSON,
University of Aberdeen,
Department of Politics,
Edward Wright Building,
Old Aberdeen.
April 6.

Keeping arms balance

From Mr Brian Crozier
Sir, In your letter (April 5) Professor Michael Pentz and his friends display a breathtaking conceit. They ask us to believe that the scientific expertise at their disposal outweighs that available to the President of the United States. The proposition that non-nuclear "super-weapons" to destroy missiles in space can be built has been around for some time and has been studied in Washington as a practical possibility for the past two years.

The Soviets, on their side, have certainly been studying the military uses of space lasers since long before the Reagan Administration took over. They may not have paid equal attention to General Daniel Graham's "High Frontier" proposal for

included such projects in the last years of the degree course. Recently, together with the Royal College of Art, we ran a postgraduate course for industrial engineering design. It is too soon to pronounce it a success, but suffice it to say that both staff and students have learned from it, and that some excellent projects have emerged and the first graduates have acquired an ability that is seen by British industry to be valuable.

To my knowledge, other colleges in the UK have similar courses. This experience, in my opinion, need not be confined to universities. There is great merit, as some of your correspondents have observed, in design-and-make projects in schools. In addition to the reasons adduced by them I would add that such projects are a means of leading children into technology who would

Religious guidance on penitence

From Mrs E. F. Wartenberg
Sir, Further to your Easter editorial, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2) and the ensuing correspondence, I found the following "Prayer of penance" written down by Pope John XXIII shortly before his death which I submit in a - but poor - translation:

Now, we recognize, O Lord, that many, many centuries of blindness have covered our eyes, wherefore we could not see the beauty of your chosen people any more and did not find the features of our firstborn brother in his face. The mark of Cain, O Lord, is imprinted on our forehead. For centuries Abel, our brother, was slain and lay on the ground in tears and blood because we had forgotten your love.

Forgive us, O Lord, the curse we so wrongfully pronounced upon the name of the Jews. Forgive us that - with our curse - we crucified you for the second time. For we knew that what we did (Preface to Friedrich Heer, *Gottlieb Liebe*, Bechtel Verlag, Muenchen, 1967). Yours faithfully,
ELISABETH WARTENBERG,
1 Kidderpoore Gardens, NW3,
April 10.

From Mr T. C. F. Prittle
Sir, One brief comment on Professor Moule's statement (April 7) that "Jesus was indeed a Jew, but one whom his fellow-Jews could not tolerate. This is a fact..."

Would it not be truer to say that a handful of Jews in what office we did, essentially because they feared him as a potential rival, while thousands upon thousands of Jews welcomed him and his teaching? One need cite just one instance: 5,000 Jews listened to him preach on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and accepted his message.

Professor Moule has fallen into the age-old trap of condemning a whole nation because of the alleged behaviour of a few members of the Establishment.

Yours etc,
TERENCE PRITTLE,
9 Bithfield Street, W8,
April 8.

Misleading note

From Mrs Margaret Ipsen
Sir, May I bring to your attention the fact that the authorial credits to the poem "Leda and the Swan" belong to William Butler Yeats, and not to D. H. Lawrence, as Hilary Finch states in her otherwise trustworthy and generous review of Jane Manning's concert at Wigmore Hall on March 29.

Your reviewer was misled, perhaps, by a faulty programme note, or else carried away by the "translation" into sheer sound of the sensuous, veiled eroticism of the poem. The error is, all the same, not a little surprising, and the more noticeable for its appearance in your Arts columns two days in succession (March 30/31).

With due respects and apologies to Ms Finch and to Tevi Avni, the composer of the musical setting to Yeats's poem, I do think that an extraordinary performance of what, I'm sure, must have been movingly evocative words as well as music ought to be reviewed, not only with the generous praise it deserves, but also with correct reference to the author, and composer.

I remain, Sir, a respectful American admirer of British poets, musicians, and arts critics.
Yours faithfully,
MARGARET IPSEN,
15 Loudoun Road, NW8,
March 31.

Desirable residence

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist
Sir, In your article about the provision of suitable accommodation in foreign parts for British Ambassadors, you mention that you take Eden Hall, in Singapore, as a leading example of alleged excess.

It may well be that a six-bedroomed house is excessive accommodation by today's standards for the Queen's representative in Singapore, but I am much more interested in a point which is mentioned only casually in the article. Eden Hall was bought for £75,000 in 1955 and is now worth (and I am told this is a decidedly low estimate) £2,750,000, a brilliant piece of property investment if ever there was one.

This investment, I may add, was bitterly if not venomously resisted by the Treasury, and I am sure the transaction did no manner of good to the Foreign Office man on the spot who drove it through. I refrain from mentioning his name, though I am able to say that he was not object to receiving a small commission of (say) 7½ per cent on the profit which the Treasury is anxious to make.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
By Larnark,
April 8.

Flight of fancy

From Mr Derwent May
Sir, An ornithological anachronism has recently been creeping into British films set in the countryside. Both in the film *The Draughtsman's Contract* and in the television adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* a collared dove was heard vigorously cooing in the background. This was not surprising, since both productions were filmed in the 1980s, when the collared dove had become a common English bird. But it was not a sound that could ever have been heard in a Restoration garden, or at St Ives before the First World War.

The invasion of the collared dove from the Continent only began in 1955; before that, it was a totally unknown species in the British Isles. Yours faithfully,
DERWENT MAY,
201 Albany Street,
NW1.

THE ARTS

Television
Power in
the pit

Vietnam (Channel 4) last night examined the *Roots of War*, and, in a country which has suffered one thousand years of internecine and international conflict, as well as successive waves of Chinese, French, Japanese, British and American troops, there would seem to be little else to examine. Saigon, in the Thirties, looked like Paris. The French drove around in open landaus and sent home postcards showing the severed heads of captured rebels. In the Sixties, the city resembled the outskirts of an American army camp. If we can talk about "theatre of war", then Saigon has always been a much loved stage. Or, rather, a pit in which the "great powers" could combat each other: they had no need for sawdust, they had the Vietnamese to tread upon.

This programme (the first of 12) made it quite clear that in fact, when they were not fighting, the imperialists greatly preferred each other to the natives. After the Second World War, the British actually re-armed the Japanese, who had invaded the country, so that they could maintain "law and order". This was to ensure that the French could safely re-assume their own control. There were other ironies in this most unhappy story: it was originally the Americans who supported Ho Chi Minh and his Communist forces, and in 1945 "Uncle Ho" borrowed phrases from the American Declaration of Independence in order to write his own. Good intentions are always the first to disappear, however, and it was not long before President Johnson and Nixon were asserting the more durable principles of self-interest.

This series is no doubt going to explore the Vietnamese War with the same relentless thoroughness as, for example, *The World at War* documented the battles between 1939 and 1945. But, although the advantage of television history lies in its immediacy, the danger is always one of over-simplification. Last night we saw what was essentially a schematic outline, with the colonial powers as the villains and the Vietnamese as the unshrinking heroes. That may well be the most plausible interpretation of the facts, but it ought to be made clear that it is only an interpretation. Nevertheless, this was an interesting beginning - and, for a programme which lambasts colonialism, there is a further irony in the fact that it is a joint English, French and American production.

Peter Ackroyd

Edmund Dulac,
1882-1953

Geffrye Museum

Gustave Doré,
1832-1883

Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox

The most famous French artists to work memorably in England have mostly been birds of passage, coming, like Pissarro, when it was politically expedient to do so and going home as soon as they conveniently could, or following a particular visual obsession, like Monet with the mists of the Thames, but never apparently contemplating permanent residence or directing their work primarily at a British public. Frenchmen who have resented themselves here in a more thoroughgoing way seem generally to have suffered somehow for this eccentric choice - if only by falling between stools in public estimation, neither properly French nor properly English. It is perfectly possible that they would have remained minor figures anyway - would Lucien Pissarro ever quite have rivalled his father Camille; would Tissot ever have been spoken of in the same breath as his friend and admirer Manet? - but indecision about which national pigeonhole is most appropriately filled by a particular artist

seldom helps a reputation in the long run.

Edmund Dulac is an interesting case in point. The exhibition marking the centenary of his birth, which began in Sheffield last year and is now having its London airing at the Geffrye Museum (until May 29), revives a variety of memories, from the exotic gift-books he so successfully illustrated in the early years of the century up to the chic Deco stamps he designed for the Free French territories during the Second World War, and makes a strong and fairly consistent impression. And yet it remains disturbingly difficult to label him precisely. If ever a Frenchman set out deliberately to become English, it was he. Even in his teens, we are told, he was the complete anglophile, nicknamed "l'anglais" by fellow students in Toulouse because of his devotion to dressing in the English style and his complete absorption in the work of English painters and illustrators such as Beardsley and Crane. When he came to England at the age of 22, it was for keeps.

And yet he always remained something of an exotic, as distinctively French, for all his attempts to change his spots, as any Paris Druggstore or Pub. With the enormous success of his illustrations for Laurence Housman's retelling of *Stories from the Arabian Nights* in 1907 he entered decisively into the English tradition of gift-book illustration just as it was getting its second wind, with the successful

development of colour photography as a medium for the reproduction of delicate watercolour originals. Indeed, Dulac's only serious rival in the scope and variety of his work was Arthur Rackham, and though from time to time they illustrated the same kind of fairy-story Rackham stuck in general to the northern, the gothic and the costly domestic while Dulac turned rather towards the exotic East or the Chaucerian side of the Middle Ages. Like gods of dissimilar races, they ruled over distinct imaginative territories and acknowledged each other, when necessary, with distant amiability.

While Dulac's delicate fancy in his illustrative work is very English, the taste for elegant simplicity, the Ravelian precision with which the most sedulous subjects are contained without being emasculated, and the rich, clear colours, flatly applied to make up a sumptuous mosaic surface, continue to mark him out as an exotic. If anything he became more distinctly gallic with the passage of time. His work for American illustrated magazines between the wars shows a greater and greater urge to simplification, which reaches its apogee in the beautifully uncluttered designs for the stamps and unissued coins of Edward VIII's reign. The Free French stamps are absolutely in what one might call the Palais de Chaillot style, and it is difficult to guess where he might have gone, stylistically, if he had not been carried off by an over-riding bout of flamenco dancing.

Galleries
How the
French
took
England
by storm
and
stealth

The elegant gallic simplicity of Dulac's *The Love of a Foolish Angel* (1929); and the dark side of Doré in a detail from his *Billingsgate Market*, a preparatory drawing for *London: A Pilgrimage* (1872)



Though his career was for many years very intimately bound up with London and work for English publishers, we cannot really claim a monopoly on him: he did not visit England until he was 36, when that extraordinary business venture the Doré Gallery first opened in New Bond Street, and it did not so much create his fame as capitalize on something that was already there. The admirable catalogue of the centenary show at Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox (until May 12) begins with the flat statement "Gustave Doré was undoubtedly the most widely known French artist in the nineteenth century", and England was only one of many countries competing for his services.

All the same, he seems to have had a special soft spot for England. And his devotion to the illustration of English literature and English life was amply returned by the thousands who flocked to buy his illustrated editions of Tennyson's *Idylls*, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, Jerrold's scathing account of *London*, low as well as high, and many texts of more universal interest, from Dante to Rabelais and Cervantes to the Bible, not to mention paying their shilling to see his original paintings. This was all rather irritating to superior people: Doré's having made his career virtually without teaching from anyone else, and certainly far away from the regular academic ways of ascent, did not please the French critics, and Ruskin was shocked by his lack of an

idealizing tendency: he felt that Doré was coarse and crude and brutal, and that the crowds at the Doré Gallery might as well pay to meet the Devil.

Despite these doubts, in high places, Doré did most of what he did remarkably well. He never quite attained total mastery of oil painting: Edmond about remarked of his *Battle of Inkerman* in the 1857 Salon: "His painting is a masterpiece. It only needs to be painted." But everywhere else, in his drawings, his watercolours (which he first took up in Scotland, under strong British influence), his illustrative work in all media and even his sculptures, there are a confidence and virtuosity which silence criticism. But even more, in even the smallest of the drawings this centenary tribute has gathered together, there is an astonishing vision of things.

Doré was one of art's great myth-makers, and if, even at their jolliest, his myths tend towards the grim and the brutal, that is entirely his prerogative. There are moments in the show of unexpected lightness and charm - the four very large watercolours of tropical birds, for instance - but finally we carry away a much more vivid impression of the suffering London poor or the diversions of the damned. For all his misleading reputation as a playboy, Doré knew at first hand the dark places of the physical world and the human heart, and in his own field he was and remains without rival.

John Russell Taylor

David Bowie has recently gone East, for the first film made jointly by Britain and Japan. Peter Popham reports

Cinematic attempt
to bridge cultures

The only real opportunity afforded by history for the British and the Japanese to get to know each other was in the POW camps of South-East Asia during the Second World War. Participants on both sides agree that it was not the best start to a relationship. Now a motley group including David Bowie, an equally androgynous Japanese rock star, Japan's most popular stand-up comic and Tom Conti have been back to do it all over again in front of the cameras. The resulting film is the first Anglo-Japanese co-production. The most responsible are the producer Jeremy Thomas, best known for his work with Nicholas Roeg, and the leading Japanese director Nagisa Oshima. Entitled *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*, it will receive its premiere at Cannes next month.

Merry Christmas is based on

Laurens van der Post's 1963 novel *The Seed and the Sower*. Sir Laurens spent several years during the war as a prisoner in Java, and he was one of what must have been a very small minority of POWs who were able to see something good, or at least interesting, in the Japanese. He had visited Japan as a journalist in the 1920s and had learnt the language and conceived a lasting respect for that idiosyncratic culture. "Japan was the first country I went to outside Africa," he said recently, "and suddenly to be presented with what I still think is a valid alternative civilization was so enriching." It was also, later, to save his skin. Brought face to face with a unit of Japanese soldiers in the mountains of Java, he was able to throw them into confusion by addressing them in fluent and extravagantly polite Japanese.



David Bowie as "Straffer" Jack Celliers

His experience as their Japanese cruelty. *The Seed and the Sower* explores the far edge of patience and suffering where contact between the two cultures proved possible, despite

their conflicting codes of honour.

The Seed and the Sower was published in Japan in 1973, the year that Oshima won the Director's Prize at Cannes for *Empire of Passion*. The two later happened to be a mutual friend of Sir Laurens and Oshima. As Sir Laurens tells it: "He wrote to me after it had been published telling me that Oshima had come to see him, very deeply moved, having read the book seven times, and said 'This must be made into a film'. I want to make it into a film." He put Oshima in touch with the letters and I so liked the idea that he wrote that I did what I've never done before about anybody who's been interested in making films of my work. I went out to Japan to see him. We discussed the film project and I was very happy to let him have the film rights.

Oshima's 21 previous films were all made in Japan. "This is my first film to be shot overseas, my first film to use foreign stars and my first one to be spoken largely in English," he says. "With a budget of over six million dollars, which is a dream, it will also be my biggest film." Shooting was completed in about eight weeks in late 1982, mostly on the island of Rarotonga, near New Zealand. The hero of the book is a charismatic handsome officer

named "Straffer" Jack Celliers, who is driven by a powerful desire to atone for having betrayed his slightly defenceless younger brother years earlier. This motivation makes of him a Christ-like figure, unsusceptible to his captors' methods, which culminate in his bizarrely cruel execution. Oshima explains: "When I saw David Bowie act in *Elephant Man* in New York, I knew immediately that this was the perfect actor to play Celliers. He had an immense passion, something that transcends reason. If the character Celliers had only his Western rationalism to counter the Japanese, he would have been destroyed very rapidly. But it is Celliers's spirituality, his personal nobility, his inner peace and indestructible charisma that the Japanese actors cannot come to terms with. David Bowie has all these qualities."

One of the film's key relationships is between Celliers and the Japanese officer Vonn, played by Ryuchel Sakamoto, a member of the Yellow Magic Orchestra, the only Japanese rock group to have made an impression in the West. It might be objected that neither Bowie nor Sakamoto looks very much like a soldier, but Oshima defends his decision to use rock musicians because "they are sensitive to what people want

now, they are performers, their antennae are screwed on right, and they don't mind getting right in there and having a go at the truth."

Tom Conti is the film's go-between figure, the British officer John Lawrence who is split between loyalty to his own side and sympathy for the enemy. He strikes up a friendship with the primitive but charming Sergeant Hara, played by the Japanese comic Beat Takeshi, who later saves his life in a mood of drunken magnanimity.

Why a film on this subject now? Oshima says: "The Second World War is the root of all my experience. As a time when there's another crisis and the possibility of a war occurring again, I thought it was essential to take the subject of war into a film." Laurens van der Post comments: "Both he and I are tremendously interested in the fact that art is a bridge between cultures and peoples. The fact that this was a bridge book." The film, too, they hope, will be one to span East and West.

LSO/Previn
Festival Hall

It takes a great performer to find the heart of a less than great work and keep it beating; and so it was on Sunday when Itzhak Perlman turned his bow to Carl Goldmark's needlessly neglected Violin Concerto in A minor.

It is a work which could not be easily mistaken for anyone else's; yet it would probably be difficult for the innocent ear to identify it as Goldmark's. Fingerprints of Schumann, Mendelssohn and Spohr blurred into insignificance, however, in a performance whose robust assurance and obvious affection reminded us of the rigour of Goldmark's own self-tuition and, above all, his deep love of the violin.

When Goldmark's long thoughts threatened to outstay their welcome, Perlman would snatch them up and urge them on. And when the orchestra's diffidence, nicely calculated by André Previn, became merely bland, Perlman would draw the strings into quiet, five episodes

of chamber music making. The London Symphony Orchestra trod sensitively the hallowed ground of the Andante, with Mr Perlman drawing from it a supple, almost cantor-like solemnity and breadth of eloquence.

Debussy's *Nocturnes* were originally conceived for solo violin and orchestra and it would have been marvellous had Mr Perlman returned after the interval to untroubled and recreate the original version. But the LSO seemed refreshed by direction which cleared the mists and brought to a bright foreground the rhythmic detail at work in the suspended animation of "Nuages" and the taunting immediacy of the London Symphony Chorus's thoughtfully voiced "Sirenes".

La Mer, too, brimmed with the heightened reality of memory. In its vivid metamorphoses of instrument and tempo, its tough internal energy and its sureness of structure, it seemed a true sea symphony, as much for the ear on Sunday night as for the mind's eye.

Hilary Finch

AAM/Hogwood
St John's

Among the most attractive restorations to the concert and gramophone repertory by Christopher Hogwood and the Academy of Ancient Music is Handel's only known suite of theatre music for a spoken play, *Alceste*, which they performed again at their Saturday night concert. Though the play by Tobias Smollett, apparently never reached its intended Covent Garden production in 1750, and has since been lost, Handel's music for it has a Purcell-like masque effect of celebratory songs and dances.

He later reworked most of this as a cantata, *The Choice of Hercules*, but in its original form the *Alceste* music is diverting, beautifully crafted and mostly cheerful in spirit. Even a bass aria for Charon in a River Styx scene proceeds in a jaunty rhythm, as if the fearful ferryman rather enjoyed coming "to fix your final doom", as the words have it, while the rhythmic variety of hopping and skipping figures gives

Concerts

Radu Lupu
Queen Elizabeth Hall

At first I wondered if Radu Lupu was often so studiously severe as he seemed at the outset of his concert in the South Bank Piano Series on Sunday, which he divided between Schubert and Schumann. He made an impetuous, almost aggressive start on the latter's *Carnival March from Vienna*, played with no glimmer of humor but with a kind of dour insistence, serious-minded at all levels of expressive character and with even the playful scherzando movement acquiring a march-like strutting gait.

When he turned to the same composer's *Humoresque*, Op 20, he moved from one episode to the next like a romantic balladeer, as if Schumann were telling stories about himself through the medium of music and its wealth of inflections. Yet here too much of the playing was assertive or insistent. The wistfulness of G minor enclosing the Intermezzo section was sentimentalized, and the mock-

Noël Goodwin

er named "Straffer" Jack Celliers, who is driven by a powerful desire to atone for having betrayed his slightly defenceless younger brother years earlier. This motivation makes of him a Christ-like figure, unsusceptible to his captors' methods, which culminate in his bizarrely cruel execution.

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Noël Goodwin

April 14-May 7
BEN KINGSLEY
in
EDMUND KEAN
by Raymond Fitts-Simons
LYRIC HAMMERSMITH
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Save the Unborn Child

LIFE

Grand Met denies bid plan

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began Monday, Dealings end April 22, Contango Day, April 25, Settlement Day, May 3.

Shares of the Rank Organisation, the ailing industrial leisure group, jumped 8p to 154p yesterday amid growing hopes of a bid from Grand Metropolitan. At the close, Rank was valued at £311m.

But Grand Metropolitan denies any suggestion it is considering such a move. Mr John Orr, Grand Met's finance director, said: "We are not looking at the possibility of a bid for Rank."

Sources close to grand Met reckon, however, that the hotel to brewing group may be interested in Rank's leisure activities. Such a move would make sense.

Rank owns Butlins, Britain's largest holiday concern catering for around 1m holidaymakers a year, and NSL Wings, the villa holiday group with 300,000 bookings a year. In addition, it controls numerous bingo outlets, motorway catering centres, and several London hotels.

Grand Met, on the other hand, owns Warner Holidays, the Mecca bingo chain and several London hotels. Analysts are unwilling to put a price tag on Rank's entire leisure empire, although Mr Peter Hillier, of brokers Fielding-Newson

Elsewhere, share prices were again up in a raging bid market boosted by hopes of an imminent cut in interest rates. Stock shortages had jobbers on the run with the FT index ending the first day of the new account 8.9 up at a new peak of 883.9. Datastream estimated that by

the close more than £1,600m had been added to share values. Gains also joined in the fun, sporting gains of up to £2.50 at one stage, as the pound continued its recovery, closing 2.2 cents up against the dollar at \$1.5270. Demand was so great that the Government broker was able to announce that supplies of the new top Index Linked Treasury 2½, per cent 2016 had been exhausted. The price closed £1.40 up at £100.4.

However, profit-taking left prices below their best levels, although dealers were still anxious to report useful gains of £1.10 in long, and nearly £1 among shorts.

Dunlop, the troubled tyre group, added 5p to 55p after news that Pegi Multi-Purpose had again been buying shares in the market. The Singapore-based group, headed by Ghaffar Baba, yesterday bought 6.5 million shares, taking its stake to 26.1 per cent. Last month, Pegi took its stake to 21 per cent

to consolidate its interest in Dunlop. But Dunlop has always denied that these purchases may be the prelude to a full-scale bid.

Low & Bonar celebrated the news that it is now Britain's Television South West achieved a useful rise in ITV advertising share in the second half of last year - up from 2.17 per cent to 2.24 per cent. So there are hopes that pretax profits will be an unchanged £988,000 for the full year, in spite of heavier charges, and that the dividend will rise in the second half from the interim's 0.3p.

branches throughout the country. Miss Debbie Moore's Hampshire Dance Studio held its first interim figures after its first interim figures since joining the Unlisted Securities Market last year in a swirl of publicity. Pretax profits for the six months to March 31 are up from £37,000 to £59,000, on turnover doubled from £281,000 to £630,000. Wholesale turnover was above expectations and the dance studios in Covent Garden are operating near capacity.

Another member of the USM, Fitch & Co, the design consultant, also pleased the market with pretax profits of £825,000. The shares closed 1p higher at 125p.

Hopes of a bid for Milford Docks continued to recede with the price plunging 25p to a new low of 55p. Several investors have options to take large chunks of the equity, but appear reluctant to do so.

With fears of an oil war continuing to recede, oila enjoyed further support. BP rose 8p to 362, British 4p to 198p and Shell 12p to a new high of 302p.

RECENT ISSUES

Issue	Price	Yield
100% Treasury 1983-84	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1984-85	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1985-86	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1986-87	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1987-88	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1988-89	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1989-90	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1990-91	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1991-92	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1992-93	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1993-94	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1994-95	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1995-96	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1996-97	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1997-98	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1998-99	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 1999-00	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2000-01	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2001-02	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2002-03	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2003-04	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2004-05	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2005-06	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2006-07	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2007-08	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2008-09	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2009-10	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2010-11	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2011-12	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2012-13	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2013-14	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2014-15	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2015-16	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2016-17	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2017-18	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2018-19	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2019-20	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2020-21	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2021-22	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2022-23	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2023-24	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2024-25	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2025-26	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2026-27	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2027-28	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2028-29	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2029-30	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2030-31	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2031-32	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2032-33	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2033-34	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2034-35	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2035-36	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2036-37	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2037-38	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2038-39	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2039-40	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2040-41	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2041-42	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2042-43	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2043-44	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2044-45	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2045-46	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2046-47	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2047-48	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2048-49	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2049-50	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2050-51	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2051-52	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2052-53	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2053-54	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2054-55	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2055-56	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2056-57	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2057-58	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2058-59	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2059-60	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2060-61	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2061-62	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2062-63	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2063-64	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2064-65	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2065-66	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2066-67	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2067-68	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2068-69	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2069-70	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2070-71	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2071-72	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2072-73	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2073-74	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2074-75	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2075-76	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2076-77	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2077-78	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2078-79	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2079-80	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2080-81	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2081-82	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2082-83	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2083-84	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2084-85	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2085-86	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2086-87	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2087-88	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2088-89	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2089-90	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2090-91	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2091-92	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2092-93	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2093-94	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2094-95	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2095-96	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2096-97	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2097-98	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2098-99	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2099-00	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2100-01	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2101-02	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2102-03	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2103-04	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2104-05	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2105-06	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2106-07	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2107-08	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2108-09	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2109-10	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2110-11	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2111-12	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2112-13	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2113-14	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2114-15	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2115-16	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2116-17	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2117-18	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2118-19	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2119-20	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2120-21	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2121-22	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2122-23	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2123-24	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2124-25	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2125-26	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2126-27	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2127-28	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2128-29	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2129-30	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2130-31	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2131-32	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2132-33	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2133-34	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2134-35	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2135-36	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2136-37	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2137-38	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2138-39	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2139-40	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2140-41	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2141-42	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2142-43	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2143-44	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2144-45	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2145-46	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2146-47	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2147-48	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2148-49	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2149-50	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2150-51	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2151-52	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2152-53	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2153-54	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2154-55	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2155-56	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2156-57	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2157-58	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2158-59	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2159-60	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2160-61	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2161-62	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2162-63	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2163-64	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2164-65	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2165-66	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2166-67	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2167-68	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2168-69	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2169-70	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2170-71	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2171-72	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2172-73	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2173-74	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2174-75	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2175-76	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2176-77	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2177-78	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2178-79	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2179-80	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2180-81	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2181-82	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2182-83	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2183-84	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2184-85	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2185-86	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2186-87	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2187-88	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2188-89	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2189-90	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2190-91	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2191-92	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2192-93	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2193-94	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2194-95	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2195-96	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2196-97	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2197-98	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2198-99	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2199-00	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2200-01	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2201-02	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2202-03	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2203-04	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2204-05	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2205-06	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2206-07	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2207-08	112.1	12.1
100% Treasury 2208-09	112.1	12.1

Investment
and
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Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 683.9 up 8.9
FT 100 Index 428.22
FT All Share 28.361
Tring Hall USM Index 171.1
up 0.8
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Average 8,475.19 up 2.38
Hongkong Hang Seng Index
1,041.86 up 7.69
New York Dow Jones Average
(latest) 1,132.93 up 8.22

CURRENCIES

LONDON
Sterling \$1.5270 up 2.20
cans
Index 81.6 up 1.0
DM 3.6875
FF 11.0405
Yen 363.00
Dollar
Index 122.2 down 0.4
DM 2.4195
Gold
\$430.00 up \$8.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$426.75
Sterling \$1.5275

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10%
3 month interbank 10% 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9% 9%
3 month DM 5% 5%
3 month FF 13% 13%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April
5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per
cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Beatson Clark 236p up 28p
Davy Corp 72p up 5p
Fisons 60p up 5p
Sotheby P. B. 530p up 40p
Riley Leisure 177p up 15p
Triplex 27p up 5p
BTR 414 down 8p
Burnah Oil 167p down 10p
Church 280p down 10p
LWT 'A' 152p down 5p
Milford Docks 55p down 5p
Molins 149p down 5p

TODAY

Interims: Emsco Lighting,
Scottish Cities Inv. TST,
Smiths Inds.
Finals: Aircat, Bowthorpe
Hdgs., Brook Street Bureau,
Expat Int'l, Johnston Grp.,
Lamont Hdgs., Northern En-
gineering Inds., H and J Quick
Grp.

Economic statistics: Building
societies' monthly figures
(March); provisional figures of
vehicle production (March)

Bid talk lifts
Rank shares

Speculation that several lead-
ing companies may soon be the
targets of bids continued to
circulate in the stock market
yesterday.

Shares of Rank Organisation
jumped 8p to 154p amid
growing talk that Grand Metro-
politan may be casting an
appreciative eye over parts of
Rank, including holiday and
bingo interests. Rank's leisure
interests could be worth about
£100m. Grand Met has ruled
out a full bid.

Microwave. Dunlop, the
troubled tyre group, added 5p to
55p after the Malaysian group
Pegi-Multi Purpose bought 6.5
million shares, taking its stake
to 26.1 per cent.

HOWDEN RESIGN-
NATION: Mr M. J. A. Glover,
vice-chairman and chief operat-
ing officer, has requested early
retirement from Alexander
Howden Group from July 1. He
will act as a consultant to
Alexander and Alexander for
the next two years.

EEC COMPLAINT: The
European Community has
asked Gatt to create a working
party to examine the com-
munity's complaint that Japan's
trade policies are too restrictive.

JAPAN BOOSTED: Japan's
trade surplus widened to
\$2,040m (£1,355m) last
March from \$1,040m in Feb-
ruary.

SALES FALL: West Ger-
man wholesale sales declined 4
per cent to DM57,000m in
February from the same month
last year according to the
Federal Statistics Office. The
agency said the decline mea-
sured 3 per cent when adjusted
for inflation.

INVESTMENT FALLS: Planned
investment in Australia
mining and manufacturing
projects is put at \$25,980m by a
survey completed in December
by the Department of Industry
and Commerce. This compares
with an estimate of \$31,990m
six months earlier and
\$32,800m a year ago.

Wall St
gains in
heavy
trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

Stocks were gaining in heavy
trading.

The Dow Jones industrial
average was up more than 10
points early in the morning.

The transportation average,
however, was fractionally lower
on easing prices for the airlines.

Advances were more than 2-
to-1 ahead of declines.

Mr Sidney B. Lurie, execu-
tive vice-president at Josephthal
& Co, said the market's rise was
being helped by the oil which
have been oversold and now are
underwritten and by the enor-
mous flows of money coming
into the market from the
individual retirement accounts
and from the institutions
including the pension funds.

International Business Ma-
chines was at 105 up 1 1/2.
General Electric 106 1/2 up 1 1/2.
Digital Equipment 118 1/2 up 2 1/2.
Motorola 103 1/2 up 1 1/2.
Tele-
dyne 145 1/2 up 1 1/2. Data General
off 1/2 at 58 1/2. Sundstrand off 1/2
at 49 1/2 and Graham off 1/2 at 53 1/2.

In the energy sector Atlantic
Richfield was up 1 at 44 1/8.
Exxon up 3/8 to 31 7/8. Gulf
Oil up 5/8 to 33 7/8. Mobil up
1/2 at 35 7/8. Amerasia rises up
3/8 at 25 1/8. Standard Oil of
Ohio up 1 3/8 to 46. Standard
Oil of California up 5/8 at 38 7/8.
Union Oil up 1 1/4 at 34 1/2 and Phillips Petroleum
up 3/8 at 34 3/4.

Redman Industries was 26 up
2. Fleetwood 23 5/8 up 3/8.
Helen Curtis 31 5/8 up 2 1/4.
General Mills 52 up 1/2.

Hopes for
switch in
US policy

By Frances Williams

Economics Correspondent

Hopes are rising in Europe
that the US Government may
agree to abandon its policy of
"benign neglect" of the dollar
exchange rate when the issue of
currency intervention comes up
at the economic summit meet-
ing in Williamsburg, Virginia,
next month.

The seven heads of govern-
ment will have before them a
study commissioned at the
Versailles summit last year
showing that intervention on
foreign exchange markets can
help to control currency fluctu-
ations.

The study was suggested by
Mr Donald Regan, the US
Treasury Secretary, after Amer-
ican policy came under attack
from European governments
which were forced to keep
interest rates high to protect
their currencies from the soaring
dollar.

Publication of the report,
prepared by senior officials
under the chairmanship of M
Philippe Jurgensen, of the
French Treasury, is expected in
a fortnight after discussion by
finance ministers in Washington
this month. The report is a
technical study of the effective-
ness of intervention and con-
tains no recommendations.

But its findings are certain to
be used by European Govern-
ments to persuade the Amer-
icans to abandon their hard-line
non-interventionist stance. This
is seen as a first step in break-
ing down American indifference to
the international repercussions
of its domestic money and fiscal
policies, including the burgeon-
ing federal deficit.

An encouraging pointer came
at the weekend from Mr
Anthony Solomon, president of
the New York Federal Reserve
Bank, which carries out ex-
change rate intervention for the
US Fed. He said in Geneva that
the Williamsburg Conference
could reach an understanding
on modest coordinated cur-
rency intervention.

Further evidence of the effi-
cacy of intervention has come
from the Basel-based
central bankers' club, the Bank
for International Settlements. A
study by two bank economists
concludes that official inter-
vention has been predomina-
ntly stabilizing and argues that it
has an important role to play.

But, after what one observer
described as "a fairly acrimoni-
ous debate" and apparent
Government irritation with a
report it considered to be out of
date, NEDCO members agreed
not to suppress the document.

The report was compiled by
Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director
general of the National Econ-
omic Development Office, from
40 NEDCO sector assessments of
prospects to the end of the
decade.

It said that a large number of
jobs had been lost in the mature
industries such as textiles, iron
and steel, and mechanical
engineering, resulting in a loss
of British overseas market share
and from restructuring to meet
the changed market conditions.
But there had also been
significant manpower re-
ductions in the growth indus-
tries such as electronics due to
changing technologies and
improvements of productivity.

"None of the committees
which have reported foresees an
increase in employment in its
sector up to the end of the
decade; continuing productivity
improvements will be needed to
maintain sectoral competitiveness
and many committees
expect further reductions in
employment."

Structural change, Mr Chand-

By Jonathan Clare

BTR, the industrial conglom-
erate, has launched Britain's
biggest industrial bid in at-
tempting to take over Thomas
Tilling a week after a dawn raid
to pick up 6 per cent of the
shares.

The bid, in the form of a
share swap values Tilling at
about £573m, equivalent to
197p a share. There is a cash
alternative of 185p (compared
with last week's raid price of
175p) which values Tilling at
£538m.

Tilling's businesses include
Pretty Polly tights, Heinemann
publishers, and Cornhill
Insurance.

The bid was vigorously
rejected by Tilling, which is
promising that its poor 1982
performance will be trans-
formed this year.

The huge underwriting oper-
ation used to underpin the
whole deal is even more

significant than the record size
of the bid. The first £376.8m of
the cash alternative will be
provided by Morgan Grenfell
which has found buyers for all
the shares to which Tilling
shareholders would become
entitled under the share offer.
The balance of the offer will
come from BTR's own resources.

The sheer size of the sums
would make it very difficult for
BTR subsequently to change the
terms, although there was much
talk in the City yesterday of
shareholders holding out for
210p.

BTR, which was itself built
up by Mr Owen Green, the chief
executive, once enormous poten-
tial in turning round Tilling's
diverse businesses. It believes
there are few areas of overlap
and few economies of scale, and
it would put in BTR manage-
ment to improve Tilling's



BTR's Owen Green: waiting to turn round Tilling's varied business

performance, as it did with
Serek 18 months ago.
Because there is no overlap,
BTR hopes that the Office of
Fair Trading will not be moved
to refer the bid to the Mon-
opolies and Mergers Com-
mission.
The institutions which

document that Tilling's record,
in terms of profits and of return
sales, is well below that of BTR.
But Mr Francis Black, Tilling's
finance director, says the two
companies are not comparable.

First, Tilling is a distribution
company, where margins are
low, so the return on sales
would always look low com-
pared to a manufacturing
company such as BTR. Second,
Tilling's profit record was good
until several big problems
materialized in the US.

BTR's board has forecast a
dividend for this year of 12p - a
fifth higher than 1982. The
terms of its offer are 10 BTR
shares for every 21 in Tilling or
the cash alternative. Yesterday,
the stock market did not
discount the arrival of a
possible defence, involving a
merger with BET, another
industrial conglomerate, whose
name has frequently been
connected with Tilling.

City Comment

Optimists
start the
bidding

It is no coincidence that
the stock market has
suddenly become awash
with takeover bids and
rumours. Booming share
prices have paved the way.
As the index rises to new
peaks, the successful
growth companies have
boomed most, inflating the
currency of many would-be
bidders.

Those rising share prices
have other more mys-
terious effects, making
share dealings more fluid
and persuading bank
managers that lending
money to buy blocks of
shares is good business.

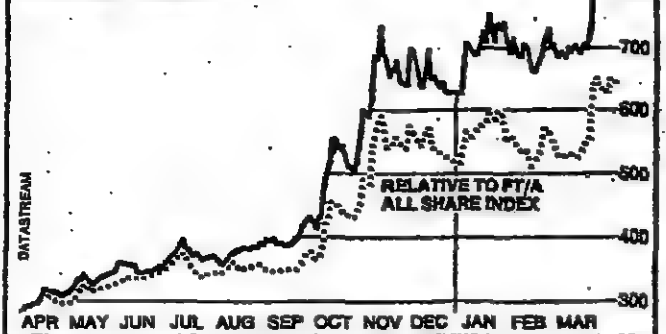
But it is the return of
confidence in the economy
that has really set off the
recent spate. The optimists
believe that the markets
for products will return, so
if you can buy the assets,
businesses capable of earn-
ing much better profits,
now is the time to do it.

The vulnerable com-
panies fall into two main
groups: those with man-
agement succession prob-
lems like Sotheby, UDS,
Rank or Cope Allman, and
those with profits de-
pressed by the cycle like
Steeley and Dunlop.
BTR's bid for Tilling is
more a case of dog eat dog,
but has elements of both.

This is all meat and
drink to the City. Plenty of
chance for merchant bank-
ers to make a name for
defence and attack and
seize new accounts like so
many advertising agencies.
And they will have to
develop new techniques.
Sooner or later, for in-
stance, big institutions will
realize that they have little
to gain from selling in
preliminary "dawn raids",
in which bidders build up
platforms from which to
mount their attack.

Many of these bids are
the harmless, even ben-
eficial, eruptions of market
forces. But mergersmania is
not good. The takeover is
too easy a substitute for
investment in new products
and plants, which in the
end build the economy.
Spare a thought for Glaxo,
which has rightly earned
pride of place as the most
exciting blue chip stock by
investing money heavily
and steadily in its own
long-term future.

Morgan Grenfell in vast underwriting operation

BTR offers £573m for Tilling
in record UK industrial bidGLAXO HOLDINGS
SHARE PRICEZantac helps Glaxo
to £86m profit

By Michael Prest

Glaxo, the pharmaceutical
group, raised pretax profits for
the first half from £56.8m to
£86.3m, at the lower end of
analysts' forecasts.

Exports were the key to the
increase in profits. External
sales went up from £40m to
£50.4m, and within that total
export sales rose by £70m to
£304m. Domestic sales showed
only a slight improvement.

Most of higher overseas
earnings came from volume
rather than price increases, and
currency gains helped. About
£8m of pretax profits came
from advantageous currency
movements, and £6m of that
was again from the change in
value of net current assets.

One of the star performers
was the drug Zantac, whose
sales this financial year could
reach £100m. Zantac is used in
the treatment of ulcers and is
one of only two such drugs. It is
planned to promote Zantac

around the world within three
years.

But Glaxo's other antibiotics
and antiasthma drugs are also
doing well.

Glaxo is the brand leader in
certain kinds of asthma relief,
and its Ventolin is one of the
company's biggest earners.

City analysts expect full year
profits to be between £115m
and £200m; the second half is
generally better. Nevertheless,
the shares lost 30p to close at
835p. Glaxo also announced
that Sir Ronald Arbus, the
former British ambassador to
Italy, has been made a non-
executive director.

Sterling follows shares up

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Banking Correspondent

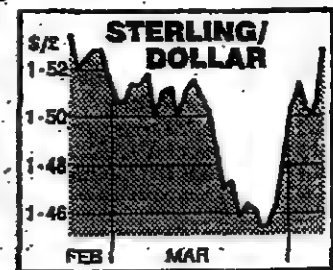
Hopes of an early cut in base
rates fuelled another big rise in
shares yesterday. The stock
market rose to a new record,
and sterling moved ahead
smartly on the foreign exchange
markets.

However, the Bank of En-
gland again moved to dampen
City enthusiasm by resolutely
refusing to countenance a drop
in bank base rates.

The FT Index of 30 leading
shares closed 8.9 points up at a
record 683.9, with government
stocks also rising sharply.

Sterling came in far sustained
buying throughout much of the
day. The pound closed up 1.0 at
\$1.6, on its trade-weighted
index, and ended 2.2 cents up at
\$1.5270 against the United
States dollar.

The Bank stuck firmly to its
existing intervention rates in



prices demanded by the dis-
count houses, and attempts to
get it to shade its dealing rates
marginally were unsuccessful.

By the end of the day, only
£666m of assistance had been
supplied to the markets, and
market men were complaining
at having to sell bills to the
Bank so cheaply.

Foreign exchange dealers said
that sterling was helped by
hopes of an early election
leading to a Conservative
victory.

There was some puzzlement
in the City yesterday at the way
the Bank of England is still
obstinately refusing to endorse
the trend to lower interest rates.
Although sentiment towards
sterling has changed markedly
for the better in the past couple
of weeks, it is thought that its
volatility is still worrying the
authorities.

Oil companies accept BNOC price cuts

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Most oil companies have
accepted the new North Sea
pricing package proposed by the
British National Oil Corpora-
tion (BNOC), thereby increas-
ing the prospect of renewed
world oil price stability over the
rest of the year.

BNOC confirmed yesterday
that an "overwhelming
majority" of its 35 suppliers and
25 customers have agreed to the
price cuts which it proposed for
the months of February and
March.

A question mark remains,
however, over how long the new
prices, based around a £30 a
barrel market price, will hold.
The companies have given no

binding commitment to agree to
the prices through the second
quarter of the year, and say they
will feel free to renegotiate
North Sea prices if there is any
sign of the recent Organization
of Petroleum Exporting Coun-
tries' pricing agreement falling
apart.

While BP, Shell and Esso
have all accepted the new prices
(at least retrospectively), a
number of independent produc-
ing companies led by Ticonder
are still arguing over BNOC's
legal right to backdate price cuts
to the beginning of February.

In a statement confirming the
new market prices of £30.50 a
barrel for February and £30 a

barrel for March, BNOC said
"the response is sufficient to
confirm these prices and BNOC
is pressing the few outstanding
and customers for an early
reply".

The corporation has succeed-
ed in steering a delicate middle
path between the conflicting
demands of several oil com-
panies for a larger price cut and
the warnings from Opec that
any further cuts could risk
starting a global price war.

This had raised hopes in the
industry of prices remaining
broadly stable over the rest of
the year, but has not dampened
speculation about possible reor-
ganization of BNOC's role

GALLAHER
1982'New products, services and
geographical markets give Gallaher
a particular resilience'

S. G. Cameron, Chairman and Chief Executive

- * Sales 15% up at £2,227 million.
- * Trading profits up 7% at £90.5 million.
- * Trading contribution from non-tobacco operations up 30% to £26 million - now 29% of Group total.

Tobacco

In the domestic cigarette business the Gallaher market share increased although total industry sales were down by nearly 8% due to trade destocking, the impact of tax increases and the recession. Our share of cigars and pipe tobaccos also rose, though there was a small decline in roll-your-own tobacco. Overseas, Niemeyer earned record profits.

Optical

Dollond and Aitchison Group's substantial growth by acquisitions in 1981 and opening of new branches in 1982 contributed to an impressive rise in profits. The overseas division has recently been expanded by the addition of the largest optical group in Spain.

"The major companies in the Group, having survived successfully the rigours of 1982, are confident of their ability to tackle the coming year. The continuing extension of activities into new products, services and geographical markets gives Gallaher a particular resilience."

Pumps and Valves

A major profits turnaround was achieved in 1982, Mono Pumps in particular increasing trading profit by 66%. In the UK the year was one of consolidation and steady improvement and Africa did well.

Distribution

Mayfair Group was affected by the economic climate but excellent progress was made by Forbuoy, particularly in the growth of newspaper and magazine sales, and profits were well ahead. In wholesaling, the grocery division had another successful year, and the tobacco division performed well.

Office Products

The mainstream office products companies in the UK achieved satisfactory growth in both sales and profit. However, the UK industrial products sector was particularly hard hit by price competition in declining markets and the overseas subsidiaries suffered from recession in their respective countries.

Japanese profits 'will rise 21pc'

Tokyo - (AP-Dow Jones) - Profits of leading Japanese companies in the second half of the present financial year ending next month, will rise 21.6 per cent compared with first half when they are expected to decline 3.4 per cent, the Nomura Research Institute said.

The economies of advanced industrial countries are expected to recover in the second half of the present financial year helped by lower oil prices, and the number of Japanese industries increasing profits will grow, the institute said in its monthly review.

Earnings of 350 monitored companies are estimated to have fallen 3.5 per cent in the second half of the 1982 fiscal year from the first half, or by 9.8 per cent if the coal and oil industries are excluded because of their fluctuating widely with exchange rates, the review said.

The present half-year will see the third consecutive fall in earnings of around 3.4 per cent, the institute said. It will be 1.3 per cent if coal and oil are excluded.

Earnings in the basic materials industries are expected to recover in the present six months, based on oil price cuts and some export-oriented industries will begin to recover, helped by overseas stock adjustments.

The review said that stocks of Japanese products in the United States have almost returned to normal, except for oil pipe and machine tools. No fears of excessive stocks remain for video-tape recorders, colour televisions, sound systems and other consumer goods.

Video-tape recorders stocks rose 9.8 per cent in the last year because of their exclusion, but they fluctuate widely with exchange rates, the review said.

Akroyd pays £1.6m for Wall Street brokers

By Michael Clark

Akroyd & Smithers, one of the two publicly-quoted London stock jobbers, has bought the shares it does not already own in Cohn, Delaire & Kaufman, a Wall Street broker and market maker.

Akroyd paid \$2.5m (£1.6m) for the remaining 45 per cent of the company. Mr Timothy Jones, joint chairman of Akroyd, said the acquisition was intended to take advantage of growing international trade. "International business is growing fast and our own international business has grown also. It made sense to buy out the minority shareholders," he said.

Akroyd's exposure to the

European market, gold shares and US and Canadian stocks makes it an ideal match.

Akroyd obtained its original 55 per cent stake in CDK in 1977. CDK, which will be called Akroyd & Smithers, employs 40 people.

Mr Jones refused to give any indication of CDK's profits contribution to Akroyd, but emphasised it had proved "continually profitable". Apart from its Wall Street broking business, CDK also acts as market makers on New York's over-the-counter market, and has strong interests in the Chicago futures exchange.

Mr Jones said Akroyd had no further acquisitions in mind.

Clyde in £4m takeover

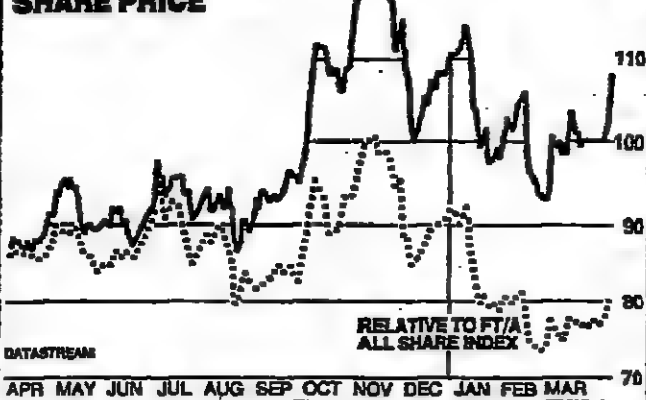
From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

The Glasgow-based Clyde Shipping is to have 32 tugboats acquired by the company. The acquisition of British-owned tugboats by Clyde Shipping is to be £4.1m. The acquisition of British-owned tugboats by Clyde Shipping is to be £4.1m. The acquisition of British-owned tugboats by Clyde Shipping is to be £4.1m.

The takeover follows acceptance by Lawson-Beatty shareholders and the offer is equivalent to £13.63 per Lawson-Beatty share. The Clyde Shipping tugboat interests are on the Forth, and Clyde and in the Shetlands, and a new harbour tug is soon to be ordered.

End in sight to Rugby's record run

RUGBY PORTLAND SHARE PRICE



Rugby Portland Cement Year to 31.12.82. Pretax profit £23.5m (£18.6m). Stated earnings 12.2p (12.1p). Turnover £163.7m (£144.5m). Net final dividend 2.9p mkg 5.5p (5p). Share price 108p + 1p. Yield 7.21. Dividend payable 4.7.83.

Rugby Portland Cement's run of record profits looks like faltering after last year's jump of 37 per cent. The company's statement gives a cautionary warning pointing not only to the recession in Australia, but to pressure on margins in this country which are unlikely to be compensated from higher sales.

There is general gloom about the likely increase in cement market share that will be taken this year by Comecon exports, even though a joint EEC initiative to block them is chugging through Brussels corridors.

So while imports are only 1 per cent of the British cement market, some forecasts suggest that they could take a large chunk of the 4 to 5 per cent increase in volume as the economy comes out of recession.

In Australia, which accounts for more than a third of trading profit, recession is biting deeply, and the effect on pretax profits will not be counterbalanced by lower interest charges.

The share price rose strongly last year on hopes of a bid from Mr Robert Holmes a Court, but

it never materialized. This has left the rating looking high. Prospects for this year are for just £18m to £20m at the pretax level, depending on the impact of imports.

Highland Distilleries

Highland Distilleries Half-year to 28.2.83. Pretax profit £3.6m (£2.8m). Stated earnings 4.4p (4.1p). Turnover £50.6m (£47.6m). Net interim dividend 0.97p (0.88p). Share price 112p, up 6p. Yield 3.6%. Dividend payable 10.5.83.

Two things favoured Highland Distilleries: lower interest

payments from cut borrowings and Famous Grouse's continued onslaught on the whisky market in England.

Last year, Highland received £2.9m from the EEC as a restitution payment for using expensive European grain. This payment has been applied to cutting debt with the result that first half interest charges were down from £629,000 to £179,000. Future EEC payments will be on a year-by-year arrangement so the amount will be much smaller - about £265,000 this year - but still useful.

Famous Grouse, Highland's well-regarded blended Scotch, is still increasing its share of the English market where it now has 9 or 10 per cent. The share

of the Scottish market remains about the same - 25 per cent - and probably represents saturation level. But although market share has been maintained in Scotland, volume is down.

Overall volume sales are up by 1 per cent in the home (the whole United Kingdom market) and 30 per cent overseas. Overseas sales value is up by no less than 43 per cent and prices are apparently holding up reasonably well.

Unlike most other members of the industry, Highland's emphasis is 80 per cent home trade and only 20 per cent export.

Full year profits should comfortably exceed £6.5m.

Bryant Holdings

Bryant Holdings Half-year to 30.11.82. Pretax profit £3.5m (£2.5m). Stated earnings 3.2p (3.7p). Turnover £41m (£44m). Net interim dividend 0.55p (0.5p). Share price 66p. Yield 4%.

Bryant Holdings, the building group, suffered a first half setback in profits last year that was widely expected because of the state of Midlands house prices. But profits were also depressed by interest charges of almost £600,000 because of increased working capital and land bank purchases. The drop

in numbers of houses, on which financial completion was made, was only about 90.

Bryant hopes that the second half will show an improvement. It refers particularly to the excellent home sales since Christmas. Much of the rising trend in sales and prices - the latter up between 5 and 10 per cent on a year ago - will not, however, show through until 1984.

The land bank is now around £27m, or four to five years' supply. The company has been concentrating on expanding its southern operations. At the moment, the split is 60 per cent for the Midlands, and 40 per cent in the south.

Conditions in the south are more buoyant, and Bryant has been frustrated by not obtaining planning permissions as quickly as it would like.

The company says it will not be able to match last year's pretax profit of £9.5m. So the market has settled for just under £8m, with prospective earnings of 5.2p adjusted for the one-for-one swap.

Property revenue is up from £708,000 to £854,000, although that sector is also described as sluggish.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● Gellagher Group is confident of its prospects, Mr S G Cameron, the chairman, says in his annual statement.

Like most companies, Mr Cameron says Gellagher faces difficult markets and tough competition. "No significant let-up in the economic recession is assumed, but the major companies in the group, having survived successfully the rigours of 1982, are confident of their ability to tackle the coming year. The continuing extension of activities into new products, services and geographical markets, gives Gellagher a particular resilience."

Barton Group for 1982. Pretax profit £400,000 (£1,028,000). Stated earnings 2.72p (3.37p). Turnover £12,187,000.

Anchor Chemical For 1982. Pretax profit £553,000 (£673,000). Stated earnings 8.87p (11.53p). Turnover £13,313,000 (£12,187,000).

Greenoast Properties Half-year to December 31, 1982. Pretax loss £84,000 (£7,000). Stated earnings 9.87p (11.53p). Turnover £1,224,000 (£791,000).

James Halstead Group plc Half-year to December 1982. Pretax profit £1,035,000 (£813,000). Stated earnings 4.71p (2.85p). Turnover £12,905,193 (£9,489,000). Net interim dividend 1.25p.

Clondakin Group For 1982. Pretax profit £1,355,744 (£991,968). Stated earnings 10.64p (8.24p). Turnover £2,550,248.

W A Tysack Half-year to January 31, 1983. Pretax loss £140,000 (£243,000). Loss per share 2.82p (1.25p).

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES			
Prices in pounds per metric ton Silver in pence per Troy ounce				Settling			
Previous Close				High Low Previous Close			
High grade copper	107.00-107.50	107.25	107.00	Dec	155.00-168.00	168.00	155.00
Three months	106.50-107.00	106.75	106.50	Jan	168.00-171.00	171.00	168.00
Standard cash (copper)	106.00-106.50	106.00	106.00	Feb	171.00-173.00	173.00	171.00
Three months	105.50-106.00	105.75	105.50	Mar	173.00-177.00	177.00	173.00
Standard cash (copper)	105.00-105.50	105.00	105.00	Apr			
Three months	104.50-105.00	104.75	104.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	104.00-104.50	104.00	104.00	Jun			
Three months	103.50-104.00	103.75	103.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	103.00-103.50	103.00	103.00	Aug			
Three months	102.50-103.00	102.75	102.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	102.00-102.50	102.00	102.00	Oct			
Three months	101.50-102.00	101.75	101.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	101.00-101.50	101.00	101.00	Dec			
Three months	100.50-101.00	100.75	100.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	100.00-100.50	100.00	100.00	Feb			
Three months	99.50-100.00	99.75	99.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	99.00-99.50	99.00	99.00	Apr			
Three months	98.50-99.00	98.75	98.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	98.00-98.50	98.00	98.00	Jun			
Three months	97.50-98.00	97.75	97.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	97.00-97.50	97.00	97.00	Aug			
Three months	96.50-97.00	96.75	96.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	96.00-96.50	96.00	96.00	Oct			
Three months	95.50-96.00	95.75	95.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	95.00-95.50	95.00	95.00	Dec			
Three months	94.50-95.00	94.75	94.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	94.00-94.50	94.00	94.00	Feb			
Three months	93.50-94.00	93.75	93.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	93.00-93.50	93.00	93.00	Apr			
Three months	92.50-93.00	92.75	92.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	92.00-92.50	92.00	92.00	Jun			
Three months	91.50-92.00	91.75	91.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	91.00-91.50	91.00	91.00	Aug			
Three months	90.50-91.00	90.75	90.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	90.00-90.50	90.00	90.00	Oct			
Three months	89.50-90.00	89.75	89.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	89.00-89.50	89.00	89.00	Dec			
Three months	88.50-89.00	88.75	88.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	88.00-88.50	88.00	88.00	Feb			
Three months	87.50-88.00	87.75	87.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	87.00-87.50	87.00	87.00	Apr			
Three months	86.50-87.00	86.75	86.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	86.00-86.50	86.00	86.00	Jun			
Three months	85.50-86.00	85.75	85.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	85.00-85.50	85.00	85.00	Aug			
Three months	84.50-85.00	84.75	84.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	84.00-84.50	84.00	84.00	Oct			
Three months	83.50-84.00	83.75	83.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	83.00-83.50	83.00	83.00	Dec			
Three months	82.50-83.00	82.75	82.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	82.00-82.50	82.00	82.00	Feb			
Three months	81.50-82.00	81.75	81.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	81.00-81.50	81.00	81.00	Apr			
Three months	80.50-81.00	80.75	80.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	80.00-80.50	80.00	80.00	Jun			
Three months	79.50-80.00	79.75	79.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	79.00-79.50	79.00	79.00	Aug			
Three months	78.50-79.00	78.75	78.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	78.00-78.50	78.00	78.00	Oct			
Three months	77.50-78.00	77.75	77.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	77.00-77.50	77.00	77.00	Dec			
Three months	76.50-77.00	76.75	76.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	76.00-76.50	76.00	76.00	Feb			
Three months	75.50-76.00	75.75	75.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	75.00-75.50	75.00	75.00	Apr			
Three months	74.50-75.00	74.75	74.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	74.00-74.50	74.00	74.00	Jun			
Three months	73.50-74.00	73.75	73.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	73.00-73.50	73.00	73.00	Aug			
Three months	72.50-73.00	72.75	72.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	72.00-72.50	72.00	72.00	Oct			
Three months	71.50-72.00	71.75	71.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	71.00-71.50	71.00	71.00	Dec			
Three months	70.50-71.00	70.75	70.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	70.00-70.50	70.00	70.00	Feb			
Three months	69.50-70.00	69.75	69.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	69.00-69.50	69.00	69.00	Apr			
Three months	68.50-69.00	68.75	68.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	68.00-68.50	68.00	68.00	Jun			
Three months	67.50-68.00	67.75	67.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	67.00-67.50	67.00	67.00	Aug			
Three months	66.50-67.00	66.75	66.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	66.00-66.50	66.00	66.00	Oct			
Three months	65.50-66.00	65.75	65.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	65.00-65.50	65.00	65.00	Dec			
Three months	64.50-65.00	64.75	64.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	64.00-64.50	64.00	64.00	Feb			
Three months	63.50-64.00	63.75	63.50	Mar			
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Three months	62.50-63.00	62.75	62.50	May			
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Three months	61.50-62.00	61.75	61.50	Jul			
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Three months	60.50-61.00	60.75	60.50	Sep			
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Three months	48.50-49.00	48.75	48.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	48.00-48.50	48.00	48.00	Oct			
Three months	47.50-48.00	47.75	47.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	47.00-47.50	47.00	47.00	Dec			
Three months	46.50-47.00	46.75	46.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	46.00-46.50	46.00	46.00	Feb			
Three months	45.50-46.00	45.75	45.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	45.00-45.50	45.00	45.00	Apr			
Three months	44.50-45.00	44.75	44.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	44.00-44.50	44.00	44.00	Jun			
Three months	43.50-44.00	43.75	43.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	43.00-43.50	43.00	43.00	Aug			
Three months	42.50-43.00	42.75	42.50	Sep			
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Standard cash (copper)	33.00-33.50	33.00	33.00	Apr			
Three months	32.50-33.00	32.75	32.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	32.00-32.50	32.00	32.00	Jun			
Three months	31.50-32.00	31.75	31.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	31.00-31.50	31.00	31.00	Aug			
Three months	30.50-31.00	30.75	30.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	30.00-30.50	30.00	30.00	Oct			
Three months	29.50-30.00	29.75	29.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	29.00-29.50	29.00	29.00	Dec			
Three months	28.50-29.00	28.75	28.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	28.00-28.50	28.00	28.00	Feb			
Three months	27.50-28.00	27.75	27.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	27.00-27.50	27.00	27.00	Apr			
Three months	26.50-27.00	26.75	26.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	26.00-26.50	26.00	26.00	Jun			
Three months	25.50-26.00	25.75	25.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	25.00-25.50	25.00	25.00	Aug			
Three months	24.50-25.00	24.75	24.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	24.00-24.50	24.00	24.00	Oct			
Three months	23.50-24.00	23.75	23.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	23.00-23.50	23.00	23.00	Dec			
Three months	22.50-23.00	22.75	22.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)	22.00-22.50	22.00	22.00	Feb			
Three months	21.50-22.00	21.75	21.50	Mar			
Standard cash (copper)	21.00-21.50	21.00	21.00	Apr			
Three months	20.50-21.00	20.75	20.50	May			
Standard cash (copper)	20.00-20.50	20.00	20.00	Jun			
Three months	19.50-20.00	19.75	19.50	Jul			
Standard cash (copper)	19.00-19.50	19.00	19.00	Aug			
Three months	18.50-19.00	18.75	18.50	Sep			
Standard cash (copper)	18.00-18.50	18.00	18.00	Oct			
Three months	17.50-18.00	17.75	17.50	Nov			
Standard cash (copper)	17.00-17.50	17.00	17.00	Dec			
Three months	16.50-17.00	16.75	16.50	Jan			
Standard cash (copper)</							

WALL STREET

Stock	Price	Change	Stock	Price	Change
AMP Inc	12 1/2	+	IBM	125 1/2	+
AT&T	42 1/2	+	Intel	22 1/2	+
Bank of America	25 1/2	+	McDonald's	28 1/2	+
Boeing	48 1/2	+	Procter & Gamble	38 1/2	+
Chrysler	22 1/2	+	Reynolds	18 1/2	+
Colgate	28 1/2	+	Rockwell	15 1/2	+
Conoco	22 1/2	+	Shawmut	12 1/2	+
Exxon	28 1/2	+	Simon & Schuster	12 1/2	+
General Electric	28 1/2	+	Spiegel	12 1/2	+
IBM	125 1/2	+	Time Inc.	12 1/2	+
Intel	22 1/2	+	Turner	12 1/2	+
McDonald's	28 1/2	+	Walt Disney	12 1/2	+
Procter & Gamble	38 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Reynolds	18 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Rockwell	15 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Shawmut	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Simon & Schuster	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Spiegel	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Time Inc.	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Turner	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Walt Disney	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+
Wendell	12 1/2	+	Wendell	12 1/2	+

Queens Moat buoyant

By Andrew Cornhill

The hotel business is booming for Queens Moat Houses, the Romford-based provincial hotel group which last year more than doubled turnover to £35.1m.

After reporting a £1.7m increase in pretax profits for the year to £2.7m Mr John Baird, the chairman, said that he expected an even better performance this year. The increased turnover largely stemmed from expenditure of £1.1m on 26 hotels from Grand Metropolitan in April last year, he said. However these hotels contributed only seven months' earnings to the 1982 accounts and will make a more significant impact this year.

An additional contribution will come from the £2.24m purchase of the Drury Lane Hotel last month which is the

Queens Moat Houses

Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £2.7m (£2.1m)
Turnover £35.1m (£15.4m)
Net final dividend 1.21p (1.1p)
Share price 42p up 1/2p. Yield 4.10.

group's first London hotel, and the major refurbishment of hotels in Newcastle, Brentwood and Harpenden. The slowdown on capital expenditure after recent spending at the rate of £4m a year will also show through, Mr Baird said.

In contrast, the Ryan Hotels

group in Dublin suffered another tough year. Its hotels in England and Ireland made pretax losses of IR£395,000, down on the previous year's losses of IR£629,000. The company says that it is still having to reduce overheads and staffing levels across the business.

However forward bookings are at a higher level than at the same stage last year and falling interest rates will help.

Earlier this month control of 29.9 per cent of the company passed to a Bristol-based consortium which has experience in running bars, restaurants and entertainment facilities. As a result Mr Frank O'Hara, Mr Paul Ashdown and Marina Dolman have joined the board. The dividend has been passed for the second year running.

APPOINTMENTS

Heron names two directors

Mr Peter Lewis and Mr John English have been appointed to the board of Heron Corporation, the holding company for Heron's British and European operations. Mr Lewis is a managing director of Heron Homes, the housing estate development and house building division of Heron. Mr English and Mr Lewis are both directors of Heron Property Corporation.

Mr J. L. Jackson has become managing director of Thorn EMI Electrical Components. Lord Kindersley has been reappointed chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation for three years for

July 1 and Sir Colin Campbell has been appointed deputy chairman. Professor David Henderson has been reappointed to the board for three years.

Mr E. McMahon has been appointed assistant general manager of the Northern Domestic Banking Region of Williams & Glyn's Bank.

Mr Ron Dearing, chairman of the Post Office, has been elected group chairman of the Nationalized Industries Chairman's Group for 1983/84. Mr Peter Wallum has been appointed personnel director of Thomson Holidays.

Mr Colin Harrison, currently groups marketing director, becomes director of sales and marketing of Lloyds Bowmaker Finance Group.

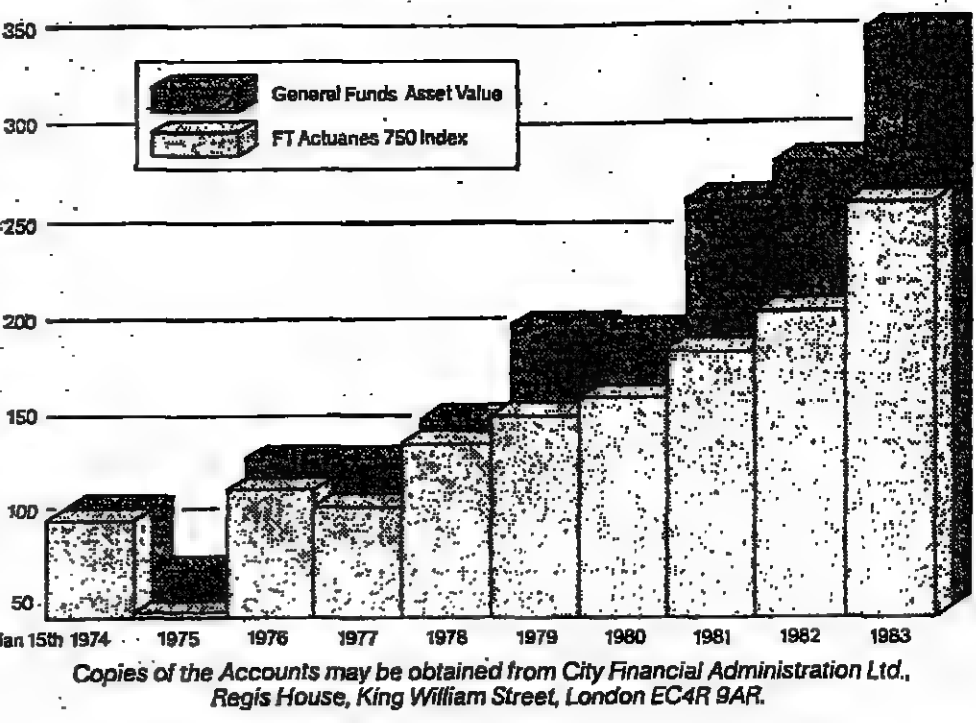
Mr Gerry Simmons has become a director of operations and development of GDS.

Mr J. P. A. Motion, general manager (Fleet) of P&O Cruises, has been appointed director (Fleet). Mr A. J. R. Tyrrell, has been appointed to the new position of director (Personnel). Mr M. G. Medlicott, previously general manager (Europe), has been appointed director (Europe).

The General Funds Investment Trust PLC

10 YEAR GROWTH RECORD

Increase in net asset value for Ordinary Share - 249%
Increase in Ordinary Dividend - 195%



Copies of the Accounts may be obtained from City Financial Administration Ltd., Regis House, King William Street, London EC4R 9AR.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 1/2%
Barclays	10 1/2%
BCCI	10 1/2%
Consolidated Crds	10 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	10 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	10 1/2%
Midland Bank	10 1/2%
Nat Westminster	10 1/2%
TSB	10 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	10 1/2%

* 7 day average in base of base rates, 10.25% at 10.25% and 10.25% at 10.25%.

Dome company misses payment

Dome Petroleum has reneged on its holdings in Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation to ensure that any default by the subsidiary would not affect Dome's own financial agreements.

It said that Cyprus Anvil failed to make a repayment, at the end of March, of \$6.5m in principal on a \$130m loan from Canadian banks.

Cyprus Anvil owns a lead-zinc mine in Faro, Yukon Territory. The mine is temporarily closed because of weak metal markets.

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M.J.H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212
The Over-the-Counter Market

1982 80	Company	Price	Chg	Open	High	Low	Close	P/E
42	130	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	+	6.4	4.7	7.8	10.2
58	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	130	+	10.0	6.6	-	-
4	57	Airpass Group	62	+	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7
40	30	Armstrong & Rhodes	30	+	4.3	14.3	3.3	5.9
18	15	Bardons Film	25	+	11.4	2.6	13.1	16.7
100	100	CCCL 11.0% Govt Pref	139	+	15.7	11.3	-	-
210	210	Candover Group	210	+	17.6	8.4	-	-
52	52	Deborah Services	52	+	6.0	11.5	3.4	9.3
77	77	Frank Horrell	96	+	2	-	3.0	3.4
75	75	Frank Horrell Pr Ord 87	94.5	+	8.7	9.2	10.3	11.3
61	61	Frederick Parker	62	+	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.1
74	74	Ind Prod Castings	78	+	7.3	9.4	10.0	12.6
100	100	Ind Prod Castings	156	+	15.7	10.1	-	-
44	44	Jackson Group	142	+	7.5	3.3	4.4	9.0
111	111	James Burroughs	204	+	9.6	4.7	14.9	16.6
148	148	Robert Jenkins	154	+	20.0	13.0	1.6	24.4
54	54	Schroeder PA	70	+	5.7	8.1	9.1	10.9
112	112	Tesday & Co Ltd	114	+	11.6	10.0	2.1	8.7
21	21	Unilock Holdings	23.5	+	0.46	1.8	-	-
64	64	Walter Alexander	65	+	6.4	9.8	4.6	6.7
214	214	W.S. Yeates	262nd	+	37.1	6.5	4.1	8.3

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the One Hundred and Fiftyseventh Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held in 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ on Wednesday 27th April 1983 at Noon.

By Order of the Directors
W. PROUDFOOT
Chief General Manager and Actuary
150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow
G2 5NQ, 16th March, 1983.



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FT Actuaries All-Share Index +19.4%
Total Assets: £3,028,285

Performance since 1962

Net Asset Value +973%
FT Actuaries All-Share Index +337%
Dividends +689%
Retail Price Index +516%

KBIM

Managers:
Kleinwort Benson
Investment Management

Copies of the Annual Report are available from The Secretaries, 29 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB

"...the opportunity and ability to secure improved profitability"

Extracts from the Foreword to the 1982 Annual Report and Accounts by Sir Trevor Holdsworth, Chairman.

The positive and progressive improvement that we have achieved since 1980 was abruptly halted in mid-year by a further contraction in the United Kingdom and the United States.

As a result, profit before tax in the second half of the year was only £10.3 million compared with £30.5 million in the first half, making a total for the year of £40.8 million compared with £34.6 million achieved in 1981.

In reporting the results for the first half of 1982, we signalled the down-turn for the second half of the year which in the event was more severe than could be foreseen in September 1982. We also said that only after governments of the advanced industrial countries re-established sound national economies was there likely to be an increase in confidence leading to growth of consumer demand and investment.

Progress towards re-establishing sound national economies has been made in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and some European countries. Key factors of inflation and interest rates are significantly lower and in the United Kingdom other aspects of the economy are favourable—for example, the control of money supply and the public sector borrowing requirement, the balance of payments and sterling exchange rates.

There has been real growth in consumer spending on a wide range of manufactured goods and it is pleasing to note

that British-made products have benefited from this. We have also seen an increase in car purchasing sustained at a significantly higher level in recent months.

In the United States there are also welcome signs of improvement as also in certain other major countries in Europe and the reducing world oil price is another major favourable feature for the majority of nations.

There is therefore some evidence to support the view that the bottom of the world recession has been reached and that a general economic improvement may have started.

At this early stage, it is not possible to predict how significant a recovery there might be nor its impact on specific industrial sectors and countries. Steel, mechanical engineering, the construction industries, all require growth in capital investment spending to improve demand on them. This will take time to come through. Manufacturing capacities are significantly under-utilised and this slack must be taken up and improved profitability sustained before further investment will be made. After such a recession, the re-building process may be slow.

For GKN, it is too soon to be able to report positive beneficial effects. Nevertheless, we know that the considerable changes made within our on-going businesses and the costly restructuring which has relieved the Group of many severe problem areas give us the opportunity and ability to secure improved profitability quickly when market conditions improve.

Our results in brief

	1982 £M	1981 £M
Turnover	1891.9	1855.3
Surplus on trading	90.4	82.5
Profit before tax	40.8	34.6
Earnings of the year	0.8	0.6
Dividends	13.2	13.2
Equity interest	598.8	649.8
Assets employed	1104.6	1105.2
Profit before interest payable and taxation to assets employed	8.3%	8.1%
Earnings per share	8.5p	0.4p
Dividend per share	8.0p	8.0p

Our results by principal classes of business

	Turnover	Surplus on Trading
	1982 1981 £M £M	1982 1981 £M £M
Automotive components	755 682	59 45
Industrial supplies and services	503 548	20 28
Wholesale and industrial distribution	467 389	11 6
Special steels and forgings	167 195	— 10
General steels	— 41	— (6)
Group total	1892 1855	90 83

GUEST KEEN AND NETTLEFOLDS PLC

If you would like a copy of the 1982 Annual Report and Accounts please write to: Guest Keen and Nettlefolds plc, GPR Dept., 7 Cleveland Row, London SW1A 1DB. Tel: 01-930 2424. Telex: 24911.

Torin Douglas on the people whose 'ovenability' boosted profits and won awards doing so

Taking a bird's eye view of marketing success with frozen foods

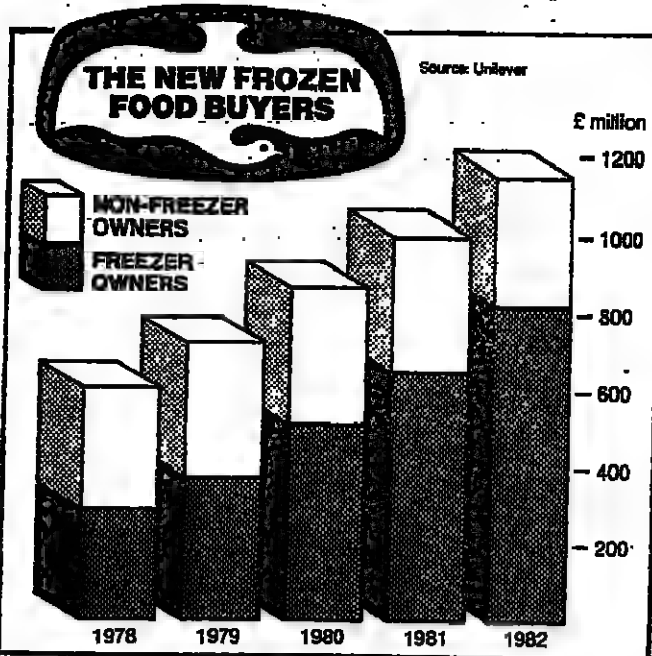
There is a love-hate relationship today between the big grocery manufacturers and the supermarket chains, not least because retailers' own-label products now account for 25 per cent of grocery sales. Yet supermarket buyers are now crying out more than ever for successful new branded products from the manufacturers - even if, as cynics sometimes suggest, it is only so that they can pinch the concept and produce it more cheaply under their own name.

For this reason, the buyers' own estimates of the most successful product launches are eagerly scanned by retailers and manufacturers alike. Each year, the trade paper *SuperMarketing* polls buyers through the Martin-Hambly research firm and asks them to rate on a scale of one to five the success of every new product. It then compiles a list of the Top 20.

The 1982 chart, just out, shows that four of the top 12 products were launched by the frozen food firm Birds Eye Wall's, including both the overall winner - Birds Eye Oven Crispy Cod Steaks - and the runner-up, Birds Eye Steakhouse Grills. Wall's Viennetta took fifth place and Birds Eye Best of British Chicken Supreme was 12th.

Birds Eye Wall's - the two Unilever frozen food subsidiaries merged their operations a few years ago - is naturally cock-a-hoop about its unprecedented dominance of the proceedings, as is the advertising agency Lintas - formerly a Unilever subsidiary, now part of the American Interpublic group - which handles three of the top 20, including Oven Crispy Cod Steaks and Viennetta. Lintas was commended in the latest Industry Advertising Effectiveness Awards for its campaign for Oven Crispy cod, which features Gemma Craven singing an adapted version of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

Awards are one thing, of course, but real success is measured in terms of sales and profit and here it is clear that the three main new brands are doing well.



"On current sales trends, the 1983 turnover figures at consumer prices will be £12.5m for Oven Crispy Cod, £12m for Steakhouse Grills and £5m for Viennetta", according to Mr Keith Jacobs, Birds Eye Wall's marketing director. "This underlines the fact that the buyers' votes reflect real marketplace success."

All the brands are making a healthy contribution to the company's profit, though Birds Eye, like other branded goods firms, makes no secret of the fact that competition among retailers and manufacturers has put pressure on margins. Mr Philip Bushill-Matthews, the sales director points out in the company's annual review of the frozen food market, that though the market grew last year by 15 per cent to £1,152m - outstripping the rest of the food market considerably - profits had not kept pace.

"While the figures for volume and value growth are totally satisfactory, the same cannot be said of the profitability for manufacturers and, perhaps, for retailers."

Mr Jacobs does not accept these figures because he says it depends what you include in your definition of frozen foods.

In addition, he says, Birds Eye looks at things from a value point of view, rather than turnover, because it works at the added value, premium price end of the business. Last year,

Market grows to £1,152m but pressure is on margins

Birds Eye Wall's frozen foods turnover, excluding ice cream, was £405m.

"For example, we are not very big in the freezer centres", he says. "We are not in the business of large volume, second quality products. We can't see sufficient profit in it and, in any case, our philosophy is based on high quality, added value and innovation."

Nevertheless, as the frozen food market expands it is impossible for a single company to maintain its dominance across all sectors. "It is such a huge market and there are so many different segments that we cannot be in them all. You might as well ask what share a particular firm has of the total canned food market", Mr Jacobs says.

One example of a fast-growing sector in which Birds Eye appears to have missed out is frozen oven chips, where McCain's is now the clear leader. Yet the company quickly learned from the success of the oven chip market - where it turned out that 60 per cent of purchasers either did not buy ordinary frozen chips at all or infrequently. It decided there was a market for a fish product that could be used in the same way.

"Ovenability" is the marketing jargon for the capacity to produce foods that taste fried simply by popping them in the oven. Birds Eye decided that an "ovenable" fish in batter, which

did away with "the fuss, bother and unpleasantness of deep-frying", had a big future. After 18 months' development, mainly on the formula for the batter, which remains a closely-guarded secret, -Birds Eye Oven Crispy Cod Steaks were launched in the Midlands in October 1981.

In addition to monitoring the sales of the new product, Birds Eye was anxious to see what effect it would have on sales of its existing cod steaks in batter, called simply Crispy Cod Steaks, which had to be fried in the normal way. If the new product were simply to divert sales from the old one, it would not be doing what Birds Eye intended, which was to expand the market by attracting people who could not be bothered with frying.

As it turned out, things went to plan and Birds Eye increased its share of the fish in the batter market by nine points to 63 per cent and expanded the market by 30 per cent. As a result of this success, the product was launched nationally a year ago and since then sales have been exceeding the targets. The total market for fish in batter increased last year to £38m, of which Oven Crispy Cod accounted for £8m.

Oven Crispy Cod was one of 12 products launched by Birds Eye last year, in addition to which two product ranges were relaunched with quality improvements. Within the next few months, the company will be launching ten more products, either nationally or regionally. Not all may succeed, of course, but Birds Eye maintains its record is better than most.

"I really would claim that the proportions of Birds Eye products that come out of test market into national distribution is considerably higher than the average grocery figures so often bandied about", Mr Jacobs says. "Throughout all our years in the frozen food market, we believe we have always managed to get very close to the changing needs of

the consumer and to meet those needs by a dedicated insistence on three important ingredients - better-than-average quality, added value in product presentation, and new ideas."

Market research plays a key role, Mr Jacob says: "It provides us not only with a continuous monitor of the many segments of the market but a picture of how consumer tastes and requirements are moving. The needs of today's working women, the fragmentation of family eating, the developing trends of freezer ownership and freezer size are just some of the pointers which market research provides for successful product development."

At the same time as launching products, Birds Eye is constantly revamping existing ones. "Our market strategy calls for a very precise balance between old product developments and innovation, in each of our market groups - fish, meat, vegetables, cakes and desserts. Alongside smaller, sweeter Birds Eye Pies came Stir Fry Vegetables. Alongside improved Fish Fingers and Beefburgers we introduced Oven Crispy Cod and Steakhouse Grills."

Whether this constant process of improvements and innovations is sufficient to keep

12 products launched last year with 10 on the way

the own-label products and smaller brands at bay is something only time will tell, though with the market growing at its current pace and with price still a key factor the chances are that in volume terms the Birds Eye share will continue to fall. In value terms, however, the brand leader seems likely to have things more its own way.

Scoring own goals

Alfred Herbert is dead. Long live Alfred Herbert. That was the message last week as the remains of what was once Britain's machine tool giant went into receivership, taking with it the receiver is confident that someone else will buy Herbert as a going concern, just as Tooling bought it from another receiver after the National Enterprise Board got tired of £57m losses between 1976 and 1980.

But it is not just a swap of ownership. Two other machine-tool groups have gone bust this year and Herbert will shrink, yet again, three more slices in the industry's death by a thousand cuts.

Does it matter? Certainly. Whitehall cares far more about this traditionally strategic industry, sometimes called "the key to productivity", than do many big industrialists, who see it as a tinpot trade best left to small firms. The machine tool industry is not quite a microcosm of our troubles, but its decline is instructive as well as damaging. We have many industrial lessons still to learn.

It is fashionable to suppose that machine-tool manufacturers are being killed off by foreign competition. Korea and Taiwan make the cheap basic tools at one end. Japan is mounting a determined onslaught at the other, to corner the market for high-value computer-controlled tools and machining centres that now account for more than a third of the British market by value, though fewer than one in 15 of machines sold. Well, imports may give the coup *de grace*, but they are not to blame.

Machine tools were traditionally specialized and widely traded internationally. Although Britain, perhaps inevitably, lost its dominating postwar position, we have almost always maintained a trade surplus, with the notable exception of 1979. On the latest full figures, for 1981, Britain managed 4.7 per cent of world exports from 3.5 per cent of world output. Until the high pound phenomenon, British exports held up pretty well. But West Germany did much better, notching almost a

quarter of world exports from 15 per cent of production. Meanwhile, Japan's share of world exports was two points lower than its share of production, though that was an enormous 18 per cent.

As with motor cycles, it was the decline of our industry that let in imports, rather than the imports killing it. The troubles were at home. It was, to say the least, unfortunate that much of the heart of Britain's machine-tool trade was in the hands of two terminally complacent companies. Such dinosaurs might not last so long today.

The main, long-running crisis was that British industry simply failed to invest in new machines. Manufacturers failed to create demand with new products. Engineering firms were not interested in the minutiae of productivity and cost-cutting. But mainly, British industry just has not grown fast enough to need the investment goods. Home orders fell over a generation.

Japan has built experts on a huge, growing and relatively stable home market. Britain has had to lean ever more on difficult foreign markets because it could not rely on the wild swings and general decline of its own.

One lesson is that British firms cannot simply hope that home demand will turn up, as so many machine tool makers did. Another is that those disdainful big firms were short-sighted. Technology is transforming machine tools into a big company industry, making high value, non-specialized tools that need plenty of finance and volume. Our firms are getting smaller. Japan's Okuma makes as many computer-controlled machines in a month as Herbert does in a year.

We have reacted with typical lunacy, spearheading a European deal to force Japan to limit its firms' exports of high value machines and to raise their prices, a wonderful formula to make our engineering industry less competitive in future. That policy can make any sense only if we can persuade a large Japanese company to take over the remains of Alfred Herbert.

Graham Searjeant

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Computers in Congress

Scorpio stalks Capitol Hill

During the Carter administration, "the White House became an unprincipled information thief". Such a remark may seem out of character in the serious world of government but it was made by a senior congressional staff member when it was found that Vice President Mondale, through his dual appointment as president of the United States Senate, had allowed White House staff free access to the congressional computers.

At the time, the White House was concluding tough negotiations with Congress on several proposals for legislation. By tapping the computers, Carter's men were able to gain a strategic advantage; they were able to find out what decisions were about to be made in the House of Representatives and the Senate and could also obtain voting records of individual Congressmen which could help in the President's lobbying.

The 435 members of the House of Representatives, and the 100 senators have three computer systems available to them. Each chamber has its own, and the third is in the Library of Congress. All three were developed separately, and while their growth reflected different needs, priorities and funding arrangements, there are considerable areas of overlap.

Such duplication can be an advantage since when one system is not functioning, which happens quite often, access can be made to one of the others.

Last summer I spent five weeks as a visiting scholar in Washington studying the Scorpio system in the library. Scorpio (Subject/Content Oriented Retrieval Program for Information On-line) has much in common with Polis operated by the House of Commons Library at Westminster, although it has been established for longer.

By 1970 the Library of Congress was already using automatic data processing, but Scorpio was set up in 1973 and, of the three computer systems on Capitol Hill, it is the most comprehensive.

There are more than 4,000 terminals on the Hill - in sharp contrast to the present 17 at the Palace of Westminster. The majority of these are in offices of the House of Representatives and are of the "teletype" type, which means they are connected to the telephone system by means of an acoustic coupler or electronically wired through a modem.

Terminals in Senate offices are all visual display units. Members of the public may use one of Scorpio's 30 VDUs and thermal printers in the reading room of the library.

Once a user has connected up with the Scorpio data base he can plug into a choice of six main files:

- Legislative information - everything you might wish to know about all public bills introduced during a particular session.
- The congressional record - a close equivalent to *Hansard*.



● Major issues - objective run-downs of key policy issues.

● Citations/bibliographies - references to articles in current periodicals, journals, etc.

● Library of Congress computerized catalogues - details of all books acquired or lodged for copyright, including foreign publications, musical scores, and statistical abstracts.

● National referral center resources: descriptions of more than 15,000 information sources (organizations which are qualified and willing to respond to questions on almost any topic).

Unlike Members of Parliament whose access to Polis is through a staff member in the House of Commons Library, Congressmen and their assistants can call up Scorpio's files through their own terminals.

Unlike Polis, which has a growing number of "outside" subscribers, vetted by a committee of the House of Commons Library, Congress is at present hesitant to set up commercial access arrangements other than the present public use of non-sensitive files.

In addition to their own data bases, the three systems on Capitol Hill can get information from a number of other sources. These include the *New York Times* information bank, consisting of references and abstracts from more than 60 periodicals; *Juris*, which stores legal information data; and *Medline*, which provides access to abstracts compiled by the National Library of Medicine.

The histories of adoption of computer services in Congress and at the Palace of Westminster have some similarity. Both have been years of resistance to new technology and change.

In Washington, as we have seen, legislators have a far greater range of resources at their disposal compared with Westminster. But some critics have suggested, particularly regarding the House of Representatives system, that acquisition of information has tended towards a "parade-can" approach.

Westminster, on the other hand, may have had an advantage of a slower process of adoption, with a close watch on budget allocations, and the opportunity to learn from the successes and mistakes of others. Indeed, some of my hosts at the Library of Congress were envious of Polis since it appeared to them unencumbered by some of the problems to which their system is prone.

Computers have clearly arrived in both the US Congress and the British Parliament; most would concede that they bring enormous benefits to the processes of law-making.

Benedict Knox

● The author, who is aged 17, is in his final year at The City of London School.

People in computers/Chris Curry, Acorn Computers

Waiting for the oak tree to grow

"There was a point where we nearly didn't go into the personal computer business", admits Chris Curry, of Acorn Computers. "Our first computer, the Atom, was produced almost by a subversive call within the company. There were no indications that people wanted this type of thing."

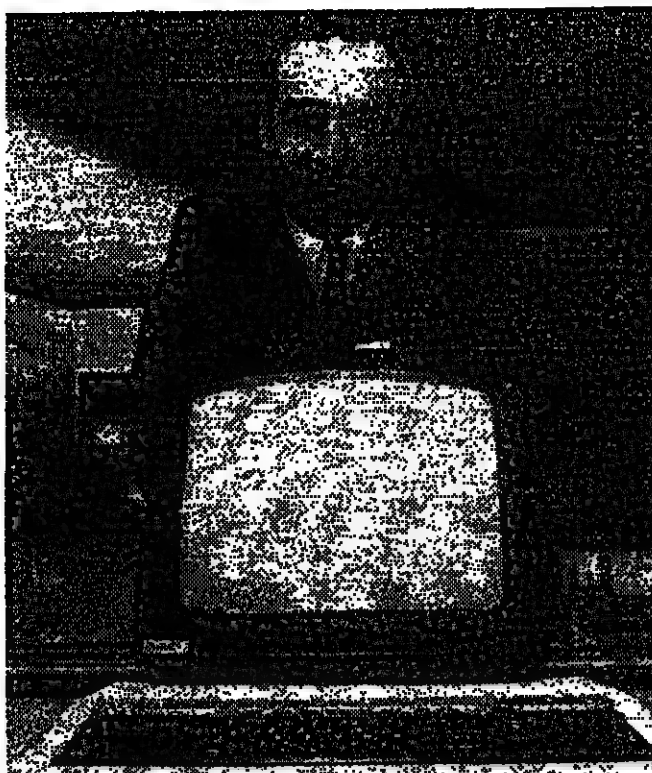
But since 1979, when the Atom appeared, about 35,000 have been sold. Acorn's next model was selected for the BBC computer series, and was one of the choices for the Government's Micros in Schools scheme. Sales are now approaching 100,000.

"I always felt there was a good opportunity", says Curry. "I wasn't surprised, but very pleased."

This month, Acorn is launching its low-cost home computer, the Electron, and is about to enter the United States market. The company is spending \$270,000 to show the BBC micro programmes on America's public broadcasting network, and hopes to sell 50,000 computers by the end of the year.

It's a dramatic change for Chris Curry, an electronics engineer by training. Now 37, he spent 15 years working for Clive Sinclair, Britain's pioneer of pocket calculators and home computers.

In the mid-1970s Curry was running Science of Cambridge, in which Sinclair had the majority stake, when he met Hermann Hauser, a young



Curry and a couple of other engineers worked in secrecy on the microcomputer, which was to become the Atom. "As soon as it appeared in its broadboard form," Curry says, "everyone thought: what a nice little thing."

Today, Curry and Hauser are joint managing directors of Acorn Computers, which was formed in 1978 to market the Atom. They share a large office, and their rapport seems absolute.

Curry sees education as a market where Acorn can dominate, but his ambitions do not end there.

"We are not placing any limits on the size we can grow to," he says. "We see the Electron as a very powerful threat to the existing dominance by Sinclair and the Commodore VIC 20. We hope to get half the home computer market."

In the small business area "we want to be in there getting all the people who are buying Apples". He plans to sell to larger business users, too.

It's a long way from working on the bench with Clive Sinclair. What are his relations now with his erstwhile employer and present rival? "We quite often meet socially," Curry says. "These days we don't talk much about business."

Roger Woolnough

The week/Clive Cookson

The race to sell off Altergo

The precariousness of the fragmented British software industry has been highlighted by last week's news that Altergo, one of the best known companies in the field, has gone into receivership.

Altergo was Britain's leading independent producer of software for IBM computers. The 14-year-old group employed about 300 people and had a turnover last year of £8.7m, including a lot of export work.

The receivers, London accountants Thornton Baker, are working very fast to sell off the five Altergo operating companies before their main asset - the staff - disappears.

The only one to make that interest public was Oxford-based Telecomputing, whose managing director Bernard Pantou said: "I think it (Altergo) will turn to dust very quickly unless something happens fast." Telecomputing, which specializes in ICL software, sees the purchase of Altergo as an attractive diversification into the larger IBM market.

Altergo's financial crisis follows the resignation of several senior managers and the return to the United States of American financier Leonard Levy, who became managing director just three months ago.

● The computer industry's (few) sentimentalists are mourning the death of one of its oldest and most respected names: Univac. This month the Sperry Corporation's Sperry Univac computer business became known simply as Sperry.

The company officially consigned Univac to history with a nostalgic ceremony at the Eisenhower Library in Delaware. Sperry handed over 10 tons of records, files and photographs from its own archives, documenting the birth of Univac and the computer industry in the 1940s.

Univac's last great coup,

announced just before its renaming, was to win an initial \$32m contract to supply the US Navy with its next generation of standard medium-sized computers. The job is likely to be worth more than \$500m over the next five years, and it follows Sperry's success two months ago in winning a \$476m order from the US Air Force, that said to be the largest commercial computer order on record.

● ICL has passed through the first spasm of City doubt about its future since the dark days of 1981. Rumours swirled around the brokers, about delays and difficulties with the company's various collaborative ventures.

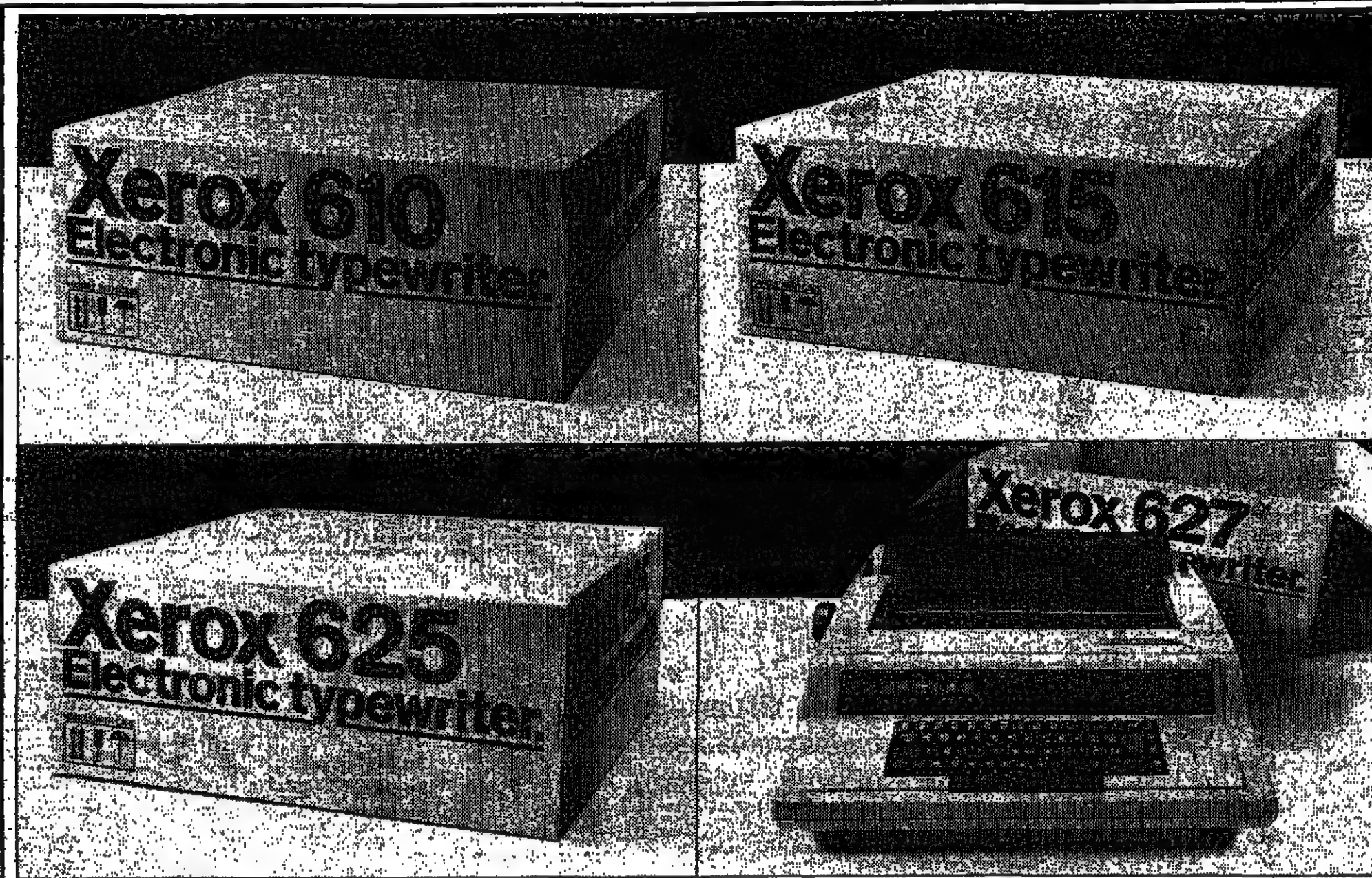
Fortunately the City seems now to have realized that there was no truth in the most worrying story, that ICL's main collaboration with Fujitsu of mainframe computers had fallen a year behind schedule. "ICL's collaborative arrangements with Fujitsu are progressing as planned and all activities are on target," insisted Sir Christopher Laidlaw, chairman of ICL, when he opened the company's new £21m mainframe development facility at West Gorton, Manchester.

"The first integrated circuit chips designed by ICL and manufactured by Fujitsu for incorporation in the ICL DMI and Estriel computers are already working in prototype systems in ICL's development centre at West Gorton," Sir Christopher added.

But the company does acknowledge delay in another venture. Production of Mitel's new electronic telephone exchange, the SX2000, is at least nine months late; this is a significant setback for ICL's office automation strategy, in which the Mitel exchange will play an important role.

The author is Technology Correspondent.

Computer Appointments appear on page 22.



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COMPUTER HORIZONS

20,000 pages of data for your micro

A new world of information is available for users of home microcomputers from an electronic "magazine", Micronet - 800. This is the latest in a long string of computer titles published by Richard Hease, offering for an initial payment of £50, a database of some 20,000 pages, rising soon to 30,000.

By the use of a personal identity number, a subscriber is able, by a telephone link, to call up educational, business, domestic utility and games programs, in addition to more general manufacturers' news, reviews and advertisements.

There will be sections in the system for all popular makes of micro, and within these sections will be offered 100 files of programs to be downloaded directly on to tape or disc. Additionally, there will be a selection of chargeable software sold by commercial producers.

Adaptors are being made initially for the BBC micro, with Apple, Pet, Sirius, Tandy and Research Machines next on the line. The business has a break-even figure of 12,000 subscribers, and Mr Hease hopes that there will be 15,000 by Christmas, rising to 100,000 by March, 1986.

It is operated jointly by the publishing group EMAP and Mr Hease's own company, ECC Publications, with British Telecom providing the means of access to the system via Prestel. At present, 62 per cent of the country has only to make a local telephone call to enter the system. This will rise to 92 per cent by the middle of this year.

With the annual rental of £52, users will also gain access to the Prestel network and its 250,000 pages of information, giving the much needed growth to the hitherto languishing system.

If the experience of a similar system in the United States is duplicated here, one of the most used aspects would be the "electronic mail box" facility. This enables a subscriber to send messages from one terminal to another, or leave them on a "notice board" for collection when the recipient next comes on line.

This could be a valuable facility for any school subscriber. Since many schools are working on software applications in something of a vacuum, the ability to publicise their research should considerably cut down on duplication of effort, and make available a much closer cooperation with their colleagues.

Geoffrey Ellis

Catching the rustlers

Don't move or I'll reach for my database

If Wyatt Earp and all the other great lawmen of the American West were starting out today to combat cattle rustling, the speed of their six guns would count for less than their sophistication with computers.

The largest private anti-rustling organization in the United States is the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, TSCRA.

The non-profit, 104-year-old group employs 32 Special Texas Rangers as field investigators, and 90 "brand inspectors" who record on special forms the brands and other identifying data on six to eight million head of cattle sold annually at 185 sale barns in Texas.

They also record the name and address of each seller, and the licence number of his truck. And all this information comes to TSCRA headquarters in Fort Worth where, since 1967, it has been microfilmed.

But it would be wrong to think that computers have given the cattlemen an unfair advantage. Unfortunately, rustlers have kept up with the times, too. Fast trucks, CB radios and walkie-talkies enable rustlers to grab cattle in one state during the night and unload them two states away the next day.

One rustler, now serving a 20-year jail sentence, operated from Arkansas into Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado. When arrested he was using his own truck, but his trailer - stolen in Texas - was loaded with cattle stolen in Oklahoma. A bullock can be worth \$1,000 (£660); a trailer-full worth \$20,000 (£13,300). So the stakes are high.

Don C. King, Secretary-General Manager of TSCRA, said: "We've done a hell of a job of inspection and information recording for years. But in the past when our investigators needed information, we just had too many rolls of microfilm to check. It was slow and we were just wearing out the film, going through it so much."

"Now, when we microfilm the information, we also enter summary data into our computer so we have an electronic microfilm index. Depending on what we're looking for - man or beast - the computer can search its files fast and, for example, print a list of all cattle with a specific brand sold within a certain time span."

"Sometimes this speed in checking is essential because a suspected rustler may be in custody and we'll need to get proof before he has to be turned loose. Or he may be in custody



A Special Texas Ranger checking data in the field to beat the rustlers.

on one theft and we suspect him of more.

"The computer has cut down the time lag, and we're actually catching more rustlers than before we had it."

The association selected the Univac 90/30 system because it provided the most power for the fewest dollars. It processes all the accounting, billing and mailing lists for the house magazine. Only about 50 to 60 per cent of its time is spent searching for rustlers, depending on the season.

"Today, everything is geared to the computer," said Mr King. "Before, we used to think we did a fantastic job combating rustlers, but not compared to what we can do now."

When a field investigator gets a report of cattle with a certain brand being stolen, he asks for a computer check of all cattle sold with that brand during the relevant period, plus the name of each seller, and the name of any suspected rustler. The computer quickly produces a summary list of appropriate microfilm cartridge numbers and document numbers and a microfilm operator produces copies of the original forms the field inspector filled out.

These go to the investigator. He uses them to track down the man who sold the cattle and

determine if there was an intermediary.

Sometimes investigators must interview four to five honest cattle traders before they get to actual rustlers. This can mean a lot of tedious, detailed digging and tracking for weeks or months.

Occasionally, it can lead to a little "gun-slinging", and Special Rangers carry modern automatics.

The computer can run a search in 30 minutes, although a complex search takes twice the time. Another hour is required in the microfilming department to find the documents and produce the prints. Thus in just two hours, the system can check through, typically, all transactions in a six-month period, involving three to four million head of cattle.

During 1980, TSCRA field inspectors, working in close cooperation with state and local officers developed 231 theft cases, primarily involving cattle. Of these, 103 were tried, resulting in total sentences of 133 years in prison, 244 years' probation, 23 years' suspended sentences, 21 years' deferred sentences and 21 cases dismissed. Restitution was made to the tune of \$121,499 and fines totalled \$21,324.

Alan Lewis

The jokes have turned sour on a great club

The ghosts of City's past are still haunting Maine Road

In the early sixties, as Manchester City sank to the second division stagnation from which Malcolm Allison and Joe Mercer rescued them, a cruel little ditty was current in Manchester, although only among United's followers. To the tune of *There is a tavern in the town* it informed us that:

There is a circus in the town, in the town with Joe Hayes as chief clown, chief clown.

There is a circus in the town, in the town with Bill Leivers there and Colin Barlow too.

They are the clowns who play in blue, play in blue.

In the League you can nearly always spot 'em because they're always on the bottom.

They are clowns who play in blue, play in blue.

Along with appropriate name changes it would seem even more relevant today, given some of the goings on at Maine Road, perhaps, mercifully, that refrain is no longer to be heard in 1983. One suspects that if it were still to exist there would be one crucial difference - the songsters would be connected with Manchester City itself rather than its former rivals.

A comparison with United's relegation in 1974 is striking. Then Manchester seemed like a city in mourning. Little groups in pubs wore long faces and complained in hushed tones, and to go into Old Trafford itself was to be engulfed in a pall of doom. For City in 1983 things seemed different. The jokes going the rounds are being told, not by gleeful United supporters, but by people closely connected with the club. "What are you doing about it?" asked me as I went into Maine Road's reception area on Easter Monday before the game with Liverpool, "this is meant to be a private funeral".

Possibly, like the jokes comparing City to the Titanic - the difference is that the Titanic had a band - and the suggestion that John Bond had replaced John Burt as manager so that the initials on the manager's track suit would not have to be altered, this reflects a healthy refusal to take what is, after all, only a game too seriously. Typical, self-mocking Lancashire humour.

But when players are telling little jokes about their manager and officials about their club, it is not insignificant, especially as they have had one win in the 12 games. To suggest that the club, in many ways one of the most decent in the country, can fairly be described as a circus would be, overall, an overstatement. But if the jokes suggest a lack of gravity at their plight, the continued presence of John Bond is a more serious indictment of the way they are going about their business.

All clubs, of course, are haunted by the ghosts of past managers. City themselves still feel the chill resulting from Malcolm Allison passing through their portals, but Bond is a more solid presence. Although he resigned in January, his car is still regularly to be found occupying the manager's car park spot. He holds impromptu press conferences in the club's lounge, maintains entrance, and although he does not still occupy the manager's

office, his replacement and former assistant, Benson, has not moved in there either.

Understandably, especially as Bond had kept his club car and received a settlement in the region of £50,000 in spite of his resignation being, apparently, his decision, it adds further fuel to the speculation in Manchester about his abrupt departure, along with some suggestions that he would like his job back.

The club's chairman, Peter Swales, makes any suggestions that Bond was pushed. "I know some of your colleagues up here still think there was something sinister behind it," he said. "But there wasn't. He resigned, and was as surprised when he took me as they were when they were told two hours later."

The ambiguous position of Bond, however, is only one factor in the club's decline in the present sorry state. The "nearby men" through most of the seventies, when they constantly threatened to do more than they actually achieved, the side by then proving a disappointing prospect, began 1978-79 badly. Allison was brought back, initially as the then manager Tony Book's assistant, to provide some new impetus.

Things did not work out particularly well. The following summer Allison took over as team manager and embarked on the buying spree which sent the transfer market through the roof. The old team, which with some more judicious handling and much more judicious transference of new blood, would have provided the basis for taking that final step to real success, instead was ripped apart. At the end of it, or rather, at the moment in time when Mr Swales decided to call halt, City were at the bottom of the first division, and Allison's dealings in the transfer market showed a deficit of over £2m.

Some short-term measures - simplifying tactics for a confused team, and buying some experienced professionals - Bond steered the ship, avoiding relegation and taking the team to Wembley. But if only his suit, cigar and champagne resembled Allison in extravagance, in the long term Bond, too, was not a man to supply stability. He also, in a lower key, traded badly on the transfer market, and his one really extravagant act coupled with the market collapsing brought the club to its knees financially.

Although the club subsequently recovered most of the money on which it had been based, the asset, Bond's other dealings lost £1.2m. When Francis was sold, and other players allowed to leave as the club cut back desperately, there was little left, and although Bond kept the team in the upper reaches of the first division until Christmas, the cracks had already started to appear when he resigned. Benson has replaced the departed, and his one really extravagant act coupled with the market collapsing brought the club to its knees financially.

It is a sorry tale, almost a classic of how not to run a football club. Understandably, the man who presided over it, Mr Swales, the first of the high profile chairmen, has been in for some considerable local criticism. Understandably, for if football men are not necessarily sound financially, wealthy businessmen are expected to be. An associate of the chairman looked at that on the head, "Peter did nothing



Allison (left) and Bond: no stability

different as a businessman", he said. "He built his business by a series of inspired gambles, and that's what he has done at City. Only this time his luck ran out."

Certainly Mr Swales is unrepentant, admitting that mistakes were made, but adding that the club were unlucky rather than irresponsible in the transfer market, having no control over its collapse. He also adds, although he rejects utterly Trevor Francis's charge that City paid him much higher wages than he wanted, that high wages were much more damaging than their transfer dealings, and that the club have now set their face against meeting excessive wage demands. And although rumours of Mr Swales' bid for a vice-presidency can be had for a £100,000 loan, so serious is City's plight, Mr Swales says that, on the contrary, things are now under control and the club will be able to afford to sign new players in the summer, when he still confidently expects them to be a first division team.

One hopes he is right. For although Mr Swales must take a major share of the blame for the

current situation, he also deserves credit for the many good things the club has done under his leadership. They are one of the most open, friendly and decent of clubs. Their Junior Blues programme for young supporters is a model of its kind, and their planned development of their training ground, to provide community facilities for local youngsters, also offers a lead to several of their more famous rivals.

It would be a pity if Mr Swales' almost obsessive desire to challenge the national institution across Manchester led City to lose their local identity which gives them a virtual monopoly of local talent - five of the club's best six players are from the area. While United have only one in their team. It would be even sadder if Mr Swales acts out the lesson he says he has learned from their recent problems - that winning is the only thing that matters. The affection many feel for this club testifies that that is not so, even if the affection is frequently tinged with exasperation.

Peter Ball

Comings and goings

ALLISON

£85,000
Sillman
Robinson
Shilton
Shepherdson
MacKenzie
Daley
Bee
Reeves

4,037,500

BOND

Hutchinson
MacDonald
Bayer
Gow
Ford
O'Neill
Hartford
Francis
Baker
Cross

3,092,500

SALES

Idd
Watson
Owen
Hartford
Barnes
Chernom
Robinson
Fulcher
Sillman

160,000
150,000
450,000
420,000
748,000
200,000
450,000
130,000
50,000

2,728,000

FREE TRANSFER

Henry
Gow
O'Neill
Hutchinson
Daley
Palmer
Francis

1,845,000

As always transfer figures are unreliable, and these figures slightly underestimate Allison's deficit (said by the chairman to be "around £1m") and perhaps slightly overestimate Bond's (said to be "around £1m").

VOLLEYBALL

Harriers go up to top flight

By Paul Harrison

The success of RAF Harriers in becoming the first side from the Services to make the first division of the English League, Open, the growth of the sport within the Royal Air Force.

The Harriers were founded nine years ago, but did not get financial support from the RAF until two years later. Since then, the side have prospered, and now, having moved to the National League. In this time the sport has become established in the RAF and the standard at station level has risen rapidly.

This season the club have won the second division title and now face their greatest challenge, adapting to the faster pace of the first division. Most promoted sides drop straight back down again, as Spetsworth II did last season.

Bemi, the other promoted side, did manage to go up, the first one in three seasons to do so. An encouragement for the Harriers is that they beat Bemi early in the season in a cup match. We are reasonably confident that we will stay up," Sergeant Dave Crab, the team manager, said.

Their home court is at RAF Swindon in the Midlands and as the members of the squad are scattered around RAF bases from Cornwall to Scotland, even a home match is an away one for most of them. Another problem is that players are sometimes called away by operational demands; last year Miles Woodfield was sent to the Falklands as part of a fire section. He is credited with having marked out and created the first volleyball court on the island before returning home last November to play for the Harriers.

As a Services side, they can contemplate tours abroad that some other clubs could not; they are going to West Germany for 10 days in May and hope to spend a week in Gibraltar in August. However, an invitation to attend a tournament in Dublin at the end of April has had to go by the board, for security reasons.

PROJECT MANAGER

£18,000 neg

My client is a large software house based in London. The company is growing rapidly and is looking for a project manager to manage the development of a new software product. The successful candidate will have a minimum 5 years' experience in software development, preferably in a team leader role. For more details please ring Mr. Gordon on 01-407 2531 or write to Mr. Gordon, 64 Newmarket Street, London W1A 4SE.

SQUASH RACKETS

Penalty-point rule change likely

By Richard Eaton

An important rule change involving the introduction of a penalty point before disqualification, looks likely after incidents that have afflicted the sport of squash recently. During yesterday's first day of the British Open championships, itself containing a spattering of unusual events, representatives of two important bodies, the International Squash Players' Association and the Squash Rackets Association confirmed their organizations' keenness for such a change.

Hidayat Jahan, the world No 2, disqualified for alleged abuse of the referee at Chichester, was asked by the SRA for his version of the incident, to which he has replied by requesting for the matter to be dealt with when the championships - in which he was beaten by Gopal Awad in five games on Sunday night - are over.

The ISPA plans to see he gets all the legal representation necessary. "We believe he was not given due warning and the laws of natural justice would have precedence over the ISPA rules which are inadequate," the Managing Director of ISPA, Peter Luck-Hill, said.

Unfortunately, ISPA's disciplinary committee has been virtually defunct for about three years, ever since a player was fined for refusing to pay it and the committee was unable to enforce its decision. At about the same time, Kevin Shawcross, the current world amateur champion from Australia, became the first player to be banned for incidents both off and on the court, and since the game has gone on, there has been a slow but perceptible increase in incidents between players and referees.

Not are the committees likely to be reformed for a while. "It doesn't have enough legal protection to discipline players," Mr Luck-Hill said. "It did so with Shawcross, and it was accepted and forgotten. But in truth, without a new code of conduct to give us legal protection, we might be in difficult waters."

This means nothing can be done by ISPA until the summer, by which time the so-called "Bible" will have been circulated to players and

Hidayat Jahan: Hearing of case deferred

probably adopted. The SRA has already had a draft of its own code of conduct "concerned with the maintenance of good behaviour ready for some weeks."

The idea of such a change is that a referee would not be left with only two real options - that of putting up with offences, such as time-wasting and abuse, and thus losing credence, or the drastic step of disqualification. The change is based upon the rules in the International Professional Tennis Council handbook, but in the SRA version at least, would be different in that it would still allow the referee to enforce automatic disqualification without going through any intermediate stage, if he so wishes.

There is still the sticky question of whether or not the game actually warrants a certain amount of aggravation on court as an entertainment and as to what is, or is not, to be considered abusive behaviour in the steadily changing standards of today's world. But the majority view appears to be that of John Leivers: "I believe something has to be done about players' behaviour and that, in any case, we have to do this for our own sport window."

WOMEN'S QUARTER FINAL D. Williams (Aust) vs. S. Croft (NZ) 3-2, 3-2, 10-6, 4-2. A. Ward (NZ) vs. M. Jettan (NZ) 4-2, 3-2, 5-2, 3-2.

WOMEN'S QUARTER-FINALS: A. Smith (GB) vs. R. Thomas (Aust) 4-2, 3-2, 4-2, 5-2, 3-2.

HOCKEY

Scots earn point for enterprise

From Joyce Whitehead
Kuala Lumpur

If Argentina's defeat of West Germany on Sunday evening in the World Cup tournament here was a surprise, yesterday's goalless draw between Scotland and the top seeded Netherlands was almost a miracle. Scotland looked poor on Sunday when they lost 1-3 to the United States but yesterday, particularly in the second half, they were completely transformed.

Making few mistakes in defence Scotland were always ready to race away into attack. They must have given the Netherlands a shock, for the Dutch, though a very skilful side, never really gained the upper hand. Three Netherlands players were given warning cards.

England, on the other hand, were disappointing yesterday in their first match. They also managed to draw 1-1 with Canada scoring the equaliser through Jane Swinerton, in the closing minutes. This match was played at 3.30 am and England were not at their best. Accuracy was at a discount and they misjudged the timing of their tackles, but Linda Carr saved the situation many times. The Canadians, in contrast, looked full of confidence and in the second half they were completely transformed.

Play in the second half became slower. Because of some misjudged standing Chris Thomas of Wales was sent off by the umpire, for questioning, for five minutes but the remaining 10 Welsh players defended so well that they kept the Americans at bay.

WOMEN'S CUP: Group A: Scotland 1, Netherlands 1, Canada 1, New Zealand 1, South Africa 1.

In the tropical heat Wales battled with the United States for another 1-1 draw. Marilyn Pugh gave Wales the lead within five minutes and with the United States playing better hockey than on Sunday play flowed fairly well. Both Anders equallised shortly before half-time.

Play in the second half became slower. Because of some misjudged standing Chris Thomas of Wales was sent off by the umpire, for questioning, for five minutes but the remaining 10 Welsh players defended so well that they kept the Americans at bay.

WOMEN'S CUP: Group A: Scotland 1, Netherlands 1, Canada 1, New Zealand 1, South Africa 1.

Family on both sides

Family interest in schoolboy international hockey will be divided between Swansea and Dublin when the home countries championships are played today and tomorrow at these two centres. Swansea, writes, The Colwyn, of Swansea, have one son Anthony, in the Welsh under-16 squad, and another, David, who travels to Dublin with the under-19 side.

Umpires at the Swansea event might have a little problem of identification. In the Welsh under-16 side are the twin brothers Orlan and David Mackinnon.

Computer Appointments

LEICESTER POLYTECHNIC TECHNICIAN POSTS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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The Personnel Office, Leicester Polytechnic, PO Box 143, Leicester LE1 8RH. Tel: (0533) 551551 ext 2303.

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Systems Designers Limited is a leading international systems consultancy specialising in the mini and micro-computer areas and offering consultancy systems and software development services, and a range of latest technology software products. The high technology Business Communications area of the company is expanding to meet the growing demands in this challenging environment. This has created excellent opportunities for a few suitably qualified computer professionals to join at a senior level. The appointments are:

Consultant (£14k to £18k)

With experience in one or more of the following: videotelecommunications, packet switching networks, data base systems, and the design and development of real-time systems using the very latest in mini and micro-computer technology.

Project Manager (£16k to £18k)

With experience of handling both time and materials and fixed price contracts in a demanding, competitive environment. Applicants must have experience in client liaison, contractual and main management situations. Experience in taking at least one reasonably sized project successfully through from initiation to acceptance must be demonstrated.

Applications should be made by telephone to Paul Gray on Freephone 3179, or write to her at:

Systems Designers Limited

Systems House, 105 Fleet Road, Fleet, Hants GU13 8NZ, quoting reference ST02

Logica

mini-Assembler Programmers and Analyst/Programmers £8,000-£12,500

London based

Logica's Finance Group provides services to market leaders in banking, insurance and finance, from short studies to major implementations. Our continuing success and growth has led to the need to recruit staff at various levels.

In particular, we would like to meet young applicants with at least two years experience of Assembler programming on minis, preferably on Data General or DEC equipment. We look for candidates of graduate calibre with proven technical skills, potential for development and a high degree of commitment.

You will become involved in the development and implementation of finance-related systems where you will gain experience of working on complex and sophisticated projects. Working for Logica ensures an excellent career path and will give you the opportunity to consolidate and expand your present knowledge and skills.

For more details, please contact Louise Romain, our Recruiting Consultant, on 01-407 2531 both daytime and evenings. Alternatively, please send your CV to her at Logica Limited, 64 Newmarket Street, London W1A 4SE.

01-407 2531

Legal Appointments

ARTICLED CLERKSHIPS

Legal training opportunities

For a limited number of young men and women to be articled to senior solicitors in the Government Legal Service in London.

The Government's business, even within a single department, can be so diverse that legal problems rarely repeat themselves. Every day brings new material to the lawyer's desk, and new problems to solve.

This means that successful candidates will be given an invaluable insight into a broad spectrum of legal matters including advisory work, litigation, conveyancing and prosecutions.

Candidates must have or obtain by Summer 1983 a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours or a post-graduate degree. They should normally be exempt from or have passed the Common Professional Examination, but candidates of very high quality without this qualification will also be considered. To have taken the Law Society Final Examination or intend taking it before entering articles will be an advantage.

Starting salary at least £6740. Appointment as Legal Assistant (maximum £14155) follows admission as a solicitor. Promotion prospects to £23420 and above.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 6th May 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconway Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG22 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68531 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/679/1.

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Government Legal Service

Company Secretary

£20,000 plus car Essex

For May & Baker, an international research based Pharmaceutical and Agrochemicals Group, with a world-wide turnover in excess of £215m. Reporting to the Finance Director, the appointee will be responsible for all corporate, legal and statutory duties, including insurance, patents and trade marks. Responsibility will also extend to all UK subsidiary and associated companies, to the UK pension funds and functionally for all overseas, subsidiary and associated companies.

Candidates, Chartered Secretaries, aged 35 plus, must offer at least 5 years' company secretarial experience. A sound legal background is essential and familiarity with the industry is desirable. Knowledge of French would be a distinct advantage.

Attractive fringe benefits include pension scheme, free medical cover, subsidised lunches, sports club and, if necessary, assistance in relocation expenses.

Please write—in confidence—to Ken Orrell ref A.19273, MSL Chartered Secretary, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AW.

This appointment is open to men and women.

MSL
CHARTERED SECRETARY

Assistant Company Secretary

Bovis Construction Limited, one of the UK's largest building contractors, is offering a challenging career as an Assistant Company Secretary.

Working closely with the Company Secretary, you will be mainly concerned with commercial and contracting matters, and negotiations. Previous experience of the construction industry would therefore be an advantage, and you should be a qualified Chartered Secretary or Solicitor.

For the man or woman we appoint, we are prepared to negotiate a salary which reflects the importance we attach to this position. Valuable additions will include a company car, and pension scheme with life cover.

If you would like to work in a stimulating environment, which offers job satisfaction and good prospects in our flourishing company, write with personal and career details to:

Brian Robinson, Personnel Manager, Bovis Construction Limited, Bovis House, Northolt Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0EE. Tel: 01-422 3488.

Bovis

Bovis Construction Limited
A member of the P & O Group

Young Solicitors for Commercial Litigation

They require Solicitors, recently qualified or with up to three years' post-qualification experience, to conduct international insurance, reinsurance, shipping and transport cases, including advising on and handling disputes in this country and in many foreign jurisdictions, involving a wide variety of legal and commercial problems and travel abroad. Previous experience of reinsurance disputes or other types of substantial commercial litigation will be a distinct advantage. The rewards and prospects are excellent.

Candidates should apply in writing, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae and quoting reference 2062 to Mrs. Indira Brown, Corporate Resourcing Group, 6 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RL. Telephone: 01-222 5555.

Corporate Resourcing Group
Management Consultants - Executive Search

Advocacy and General Commercial

United Biscuits require a qualified Solicitor to work in its Headquarter's Legal Department at Isleworth, Middlesex. This is a new position arising out of the expansion of the Group's requirement for legal work to be performed in-house.

The work involved will include advising on a wide range of commercial legal matters including employment, foods and drugs, weights and measures, trademarks, marketing and trading standards law. The appointee will undertake advocacy in industrial tribunals and magistrates court. There will be opportunities to participate in management of high court litigation, drafting of commercial agreements and conveyancing.

The successful applicant will have a good law degree, be 6 months to 1 year qualified, have some advocacy experience and experience in at least one of conveyancing, high court litigation or general commercial work, gained in or after articles. He or she will report to the Group Legal Adviser.

Attractive salary. Usual large Company benefits include generous pension scheme.

Please write or telephone for an application form and job description to: Miss P Jung, HQ Personnel Manager, United Biscuits (UK) Limited, Grant House, PO Box 40, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN. Telephone No: 01-560 3131, Ext 4025.

United Biscuits Group

SOLICITORS FOR COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

City firm with expanding civil litigation department requires first class solicitors. The firm has an excellent clientele which produces a variety of challenging problems of national and international character. A constructive approach, ability to work as the matter requires, and a first or good second class degree in any discipline (science graduates particularly welcome) are the basic qualifications. This is a very good opportunity for ambitious and thoroughly competent lawyers and the rewards are commensurate.

To apply for the above appointment, send your curriculum vitae or write/telephone for an application form quoting Ref. RM/C.67. Reuser Simkin Ltd, 26-28 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4HE. Tel: 01-405 6852. Telex: 884064 Prolog G.

Reuter Simkin

Legal Consultant

c.£12,000 Croydon

to join the Secretarial and Legal Department of a large international insurance company as part of a multi-disciplinary professional team.

The successful candidate will report to the Deputy Secretary and provide legal support and advice to the UK Marketing Department in connection with new and existing products; to the Secretarial and Legal Department on a variety of national and international corporate matters.

Candidates, Solicitors or Barristers, aged 27 or over, should have at least 4 years post qualification experience in commercial and corporate work. Previous experience of liaising with a marketing function is preferred.

Salary is negotiable, depending on experience. Excellent benefits include a subsidised mortgage scheme and a low-contribution pension scheme.

Please write—in confidence—to Lesley Gifford ref A.20065.

This appointment is open to men and women.

MSL LEGAL
Management Selection Limited
International Management Consultants
52 Grosvenor Gardens London SW1W 0AW

Manager-Group Legal Services

circa £15,000 plus car: Hereford

For H.P. Bulmers Holdings PLC., the World's largest cider producer. Annual turnover, including export sales worldwide, exceeds £70 million.

Management of the Group's legal affairs, and the operation of an effective programme of risk management, are the prime tasks. Accountability will be to the Group Secretary.

Applicants must be Solicitors with at least 2 years post qualification experience in commercial law. Ideally, they should also hold a Chartered Secretary qualification, or have company secretarial experience.

Benefits include car, BUPA, non-contributory pension, profit sharing, subsidised meals and reimbursement of removal expenses.

Please write—in confidence—to Ken Orrell, ref. A.19261.

MSL CHARTERED SECRETARY
52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AW

This appointment is open to men and women.

Bulmers' Cider
and a lot more besides

CAMERON MARKBY BANKING DEPARTMENT

We are looking for:

- (1) a solicitor with not less than 4 years qualified experience in banking transactions. There will be early partnership prospects for the right candidate who will be expected to take responsibility for substantial matters both domestic and international;
- (2) a solicitor qualified 2/4 years with experience of banking or equity financing transactions. The successful applicant will work closely with the banking partners on a wide variety of lending / investment situations and will be expected to demonstrate suitability for partnership.

In both cases the work-load is heavy and challenging but the rewards and prospects are commensurate.

Apply in writing to:
John White
Cameron Markby
Moor House
London Wall, London EC2Y 5HE.

COMPANY / COMMERCIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WILDE SAPTE

Are looking for:
2 Solicitors for their Commercial Department. The successful candidates will have been qualified for a period of up to 2/3 years. The experience with a leading firm of solicitors in general company commercial and banking work is sought. Experience of the negotiation and drafting of documents for substantial U.K. and International Finance, leasing and ship finance and of E.E.C. Law will be an advantage.

2 Solicitors for their Property Department. One vacancy is for a person qualified for at least two years with substantial experience in commercial property law. The other will be a recently qualified solicitor with a sound knowledge of conveyancing and landlord and tenant law.

Please write personally with full C.V. to:
Mr M. Glover, Wilde Sapte,
Queensbridge House, 60 Upper Thames St, London EC4V 3BS.

Kings Lynn Group of Magistrates Courts TRAINEE COURT CLERK

£2,922 - £7,065

A vacancy arises in the office of the Clerk to the Justices and offers an excellent opportunity to a young person to embark on a career in Magistrates Courts. Preference will be given to Law Graduates who already hold a Solicitor's or Barrister's qualification.

Commencing salary according to qualifications and experience, a fully qualified person will commence at £6,386 p.a. JNC conditions of service apply.

Letters of application giving details of experience, age and qualification together with the names and addresses of two referees should reach me not later than 18th April, 1983.

R. J. HAYNES
Clerk to the Justices,
The Courthouse, College Lane,
Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1PQ

COMMERCIAL, REAL ESTATE, SOLICITOR.
Excellent opportunity for recently qualified solicitor to join leading firm of solicitors in the City of London. The successful candidate will be expected to handle a wide range of commercial and real estate work. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please apply to: Mr. J. Smith, 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

RECENTLY QUALIFIED SOLICITOR
ALSO with 11 years' experience in the City of London. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please apply to: Mr. J. Smith, 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

LEGAL NOTICE
In the Matter of SHENKUN LIMITED and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.
NOTICE is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required to send in their full particulars of their claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Philip Monck P.C., of 3/4 Bedford Street, London, W1A 3BA, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such date as shall be so specified.

Dated this 30th day of March 1983.
S. D. SWANSON, Liquidator.

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Dated this 31st day of March 1983.
P. MONCK, Liquidator.

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Dated this 31st day of March 1983.
P. MONCK, Liquidator.

ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL AND LEGAL ADVISER

This vacancy in the Heating and Ventilating Contractor's Association would suit a young person with a legal or other professional qualification involving contract law and who has a commercial outlook.

HVCA is the recognised trade and employers' association for the heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigeration contracting industry.

The successful applicant will be involved in advising members on a wide range of legal and commercial matters; project work of a legal/commercial nature; acting as secretary/adviser to committees; lecturing on management courses.

A four figure salary is offered.

Applications with full cv should be addressed IN CONFIDENCE to:
Senior Commercial and Legal Adviser,
Heating and Ventilating Contractor's Association,
ESCA House, 34 Palace Court, Baywater, London, W2 4JG.

WITHERS CIVIL LITIGATION

We wish to recruit an assistant solicitor to strengthen our litigation department.

The successful candidate will have been admitted for 2 to 3 years, and possess both academic qualifications and practical experience of a high standard.

The work is broadly based including commercial disputes, intellectual property, defamation, employment and landlord and tenant, and might appeal to someone who has proved his or her self in a large City firm and now seeks experience in a wider range of work.

The successful applicant should be able to apply his or her professional skills towards the solution of the problems of our clients, both commercial and private, and also be prepared to contribute to the expansion of the department. We shall offer a competitive salary, with attractive fringe benefits.

Applications in writing should include a full curriculum vitae and be addressed to J. M. Stiles, Withers, 20 Essex Street, Strand, London WC2R 3AL.

Corporate Lawyer

required, with a minimum of 3 years post qualification experience in company and commercial work.

Remuneration and prospects will be commensurate with the responsibility and experience which the successful applicant will be expected to show.

Please reply with full curriculum vitae to M. J. Ordish

CLIFFORD-TURNER
BLACKFRIARS HOUSE, 19 NEW BRIDGE STREET
LONDON EC4V 6BY.

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Wanted Probation/Conveyancing Assistant. Newly admitted or otherwise, for busy friendly office. Salary commensurate with experience.

Tel: 673 0116
Refs. WTM or 9ML

PERSONAL - ground London. Excellent prospects for a young man. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Mr. J. Smith, 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

CONVEYANCING ASSISTANT W.I. Varying degrees of experience. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Mr. J. Smith, 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

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Frank Johnson in the Commons